

19 November 1984

RADM and Mrs. J. H. Wellings, USN (Ret.)
Victoria Avenue
Newport, RI 02840

Dear Admiral and Mrs. Wellings:

Please excuse the delay in my contacting you concerning your proposed student award. Captain Stratton and I have been conferring with the Naval Academy during the past month and a half, and I feel that we now have any potential problems resolved and that I can give you the specific information that you requested earlier.

The best arrangement for handling funds to purchase an award for a NAPS student is through the Naval Academy Memorial and Gifts Fund. The Memorial and Gifts Fund has agreed to accept your donation for this purpose and to manage the account in support of the award. It has been determined that the statutes that authorize individual private donations to the Naval Academy also apply to Naval Academy Preparatory School. Consequently your donation would be covered by law and furthermore would be tax deductible for the year in which it was given.

The Memorial and Gifts Fund recommends that you consider making a one time donation of sufficient amount to fund the award through earned interest. A sum of \$2000.00 is considered appropriate for the awarding of a set of binoculars as we have discussed. The anticipated interest income would be sufficient to procure a pair of quality binoculars and have some personalized engraving performed. The Naval Academy would desire a letter of instruction from yourself establishing the nature of the award and the criteria for selection of a recipient. The Academy prefers to restrict the term of such an award under a specific letter of instruction to five years. At the end of the term the award would be reviewed by the donor and the Academy. If the purpose of the award remained valid and the account was maintaining financial solvency, the donor could then opt to continue the existing program or make any appropriate changes deemed necessary.

I would like to offer my assistance in the preparation of a suitable letter of instruction and strongly recommend that we consult with the appropriate officers at the Naval Academy once it is drafted to insure it is expressed in the best possible terminology. I would further propose that the award be administered by whomever is assigned as the NAPS Battalion Officer. That officer would be charged with processing and preparing the award for presentation, making liaison with the Memorial and Gifts Fund for transfer of funds for this purpose, and establishing a procedure to select the most deserving recipient among the graduating NAPS class.

During my last visit to your home we discussed engraving the set of binoculars with the title of the award, the date and at a

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minimum the initials of the recipient. The design of all binoculars we have looked at would pose a problem with regard to any extensive engraving and be somewhat costly. I suggest we keep the initialling on the binoculars to a minimum and purchase a full sized plaque (approximately 3' x 2') to be permanently displayed in Nimitz Hall along the main passageway of the NAPS dormitory. The plaque would have inscribed the title and purpose of the award and have place for engraved plates (1" x 3") to be added each year with the recipient's name. Many of our current awards on the list I previously gave you are handled in this manner.

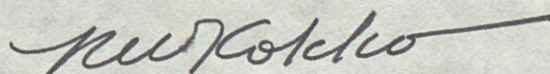
I am confident that the mechanics of this award can be arranged as I have described above. As a final item, I feel we need to reconsider the exact criteria for the award itself. Previously you had expressed your intention that the award be given for "seamanship and leadership." As you know, NAPS has been developing a sailing program over the past two years. This fall our sailing team had to be limited to twelve midshipman candidates due to logistics. They were a spirited group and showed promising improvement towards the end of the season. Still we have nothing that compares with the seamanship program at the Naval Academy and as such it would be difficult to justify an award based essentially on seamanship. Our Athletic Director presents a trophy to the most valuable athlete on the sailing team, as is done with all our varsity sports.

I wish to offer an alternative for your consideration - to give the award to the midshipman candidate who best demonstrates excellence in both academics and athletics. NAPS does not give a "scholar athlete" award, and instituting one would complement our philosophy that a balance of excellence in both areas is a very sound preparation for leadership at sea. The idea occurred to me that you might support this option after having noted the Admiral's athletic accomplishment from the "Lucky Bag" of your graduating year. A pair of binoculars would still be a suitable award. As we have discussed it would be both a practical and a unique item and appropriately symbolic to the naval services.

I note that the Newport Chapter of the Naval Academy Alumni Association is meeting this month on Tuesday, 27 November, at the NETC Officers Club. Spouses are invited to this meeting. If you desire to go, members of the NAPS staff are planning to attend and we would be glad to arrange to pick you up and escort and assist you during the evening as we did in September. Please let me know if you are interested.

I look forward to speaking with you again soon after you've had the opportunity to review this letter. Please have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,



R. W. KOKKO
Major USMC

AWARDS GIVEN AT NAPS GRADUATION

Military Excellence Award

The Military Excellence Award is presented to the Midshipman Candidate displaying outstanding military performance and traits. The award is a watch provided by the United States Naval Academy.

Outstanding Athlete Award

The Naval Academy Athletic Association sponsors an annual award to the outstanding athlete at the Naval Academy Preparatory School who has displayed high standards of leadership, sportsmanship, perseverance, mental presence and academic achievement, in addition to the requisite physical capabilities. The award consists of an engraved silver bowl.

Academic Excellence - English

The Academic Excellence Award in English consists of an atlas.

Academic Excellence - Math

The Academic Excellence Award in Math consists of a watch.

Academic Excellence - Science

The Academic Excellence Award in Science consists of a calculator.

Academic Excellence - Computing

The Academic Excellence Award in Computing consists of a calculator.

Outstanding Scholar Award

The Outstanding Scholar Award is presented annually to that Midshipman Candidate with the highest grade average in all subjects throughout the year. The award consists of a typewriter.

United States Coast Guard Academy Superintendent's Award

The United States Coast Guard Academy annually sponsors an award to the Coast Guard student who has maintained an outstanding record of scholastic achievement, who embodies the highest standards of humanitarian service to others and who has accepted an appointment to the Coast Guard Academy. The award consists of a hand held calculator with marine navigation program module.

Naval Reserve Association Award

The Naval Reserve Association is presenting an award to that graduate selected by the faculty and distinguished by an excellent academic average and high standards of personal character and integrity. The award is an engraved watch.

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Award

This award is presented annually to that Midshipman Candidate who has demonstrated outstanding academic, athletic, and military performance so as to exemplify best those ideals inherent in the "whole person" concept. The award is a \$200.00 Savings Bond.

Naval Academy Class of 1936 Award

Each year, the Naval Academy Class of 1936 presents an award to that graduate who is distinguished by an all-round contribution to the morale and spirit of his or her classmates. Selection is based on factors such as energy, initiative, motivation, responsibility, judgment, sportsmanship, military bearing and leadership. The award is an engraved watch.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Naval Academy Preparatory School
Naval Education and Training Center
Newport, Rhode Island 02841

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

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