

A Historical Look at SPAWAR's Field Activities

History of SSC Charleston: In 1993 the Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) consolidated four former naval activities into one and created the Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance, In-Service Engineering, East Coast Division (NISE East) in Charleston, S.C. On Oct. 1, 1997, it was renamed SPAWAR Systems Center, Charleston. January 1998 a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new engineering center marked the completion of the BRAC action and the beginning of the Navy's first custom-designed C4ISR facility.

History of SSC Norfolk: In 1978, Navy Management Systems Support Office (NavMASSO) was established in Norfolk, Va., to support three existing fleet systems operating at 81 sites. In 1981 the command's mission expanded to include automation responsibilities for key fleet business areas including aviation. In October 1997, NavMASSO joined with SPAWAR and became SPAWAR Systems Center Chesapeake. In January 2002, SPAWAR Systems Center Chesapeake physically relocated to Norfolk Naval Base, becoming SPAWAR Systems Center Norfolk.

History of SSC San Diego: In 1977, two separate organizations, the Naval Electronics Laboratory Center (NELC), established in 1972, and the Naval Undersea Center (NUC), established in 1968, merged into the Naval Ocean Systems Center (NOSC). In January 1992, the Navy established the Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center (NCCOSC). This new command was informally known as Naval Research and Development, or NRaD. At that time, NRaD absorbed the Naval Ocean Systems Center (NOSC), formed in 1977, the Arctic Submarine Laboratory (ARCTIC SUB LAB), the Naval Air Development Center (NADC NAV DEPT) in Warminster, Penn., , the Navy Space Systems Activity (NSSA), and the Fleet Combat Direction Systems Support Activity San Diego (FCDSSA). On April 1, 1996 NRaD absorbed its activity located at Old Town Campus, NCCOSC's In-Service Engineering Division, West Coast (NISE West), which was a previous merger of the Naval Electronics Systems Engineering Center San Diego (NESEC or NAVELEX, formerly NAVELEX SW DIV and before that, NSEEA), the Naval Electronics Engineering Activity Pacific (NEEACT PAC, formerly NSEEAPAC) and NAVELEX Vallejo (formerly WESTNAVELEX). Ten commands reported directly to NRaD, including NCCOSC's In-Service Engineering Division, West Coast (NISE West). NRaD in turn reported to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command. On October 1, 1997, at the Transition Center reorganizing and relocating SPAWAR headquarters to the Old Town Campus San Diego, NRaD became the SPAWAR Systems Center, San Diego. **History of SSC New Orleans:** In 1986 the Information Systems Office was established under Commander, Naval Reserve Force

(COMNAVRESFOR) to support Reserve mission needs through information technology. In 1995, the office was conferred Echelon III status and formally designated the Naval Reserve Information Systems Office (NAVRESINFOSYSOFF). In 1997, the office partnered with the local academic community and private industry to establish an Information Technology Center, and was designated as the central design agency for many Navy manpower and personnel systems with responsibility for managing and maintaining dozens of Navy legacy programs. At the same time, COMNAVRESFOR became the Systems Executive Officer for Manpower and Personnel (SEO (MP)), with new responsibility for acquisition and program management of all Navy manpower and personnel information resources as well as designated Department of Defense personnel and pay systems. NAVRESINFOSYSOFF worked closely with the SEO (MP) staff, providing technical execution expertise, systems engineering, and operation and maintenance of systems under the purview of the SEO (MP). The two organizations were collocated at the Naval Support Activity in New Orleans. In 1999, both organizations began reporting to a newly-established Program Executive Office for Information Technology. In April 2000, the Naval Reserve-based command was migrated to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command and both the SEO (MP) and NAVRESINFOSYSOFF were formally disestablished. In November 2000, the Space and Naval Warfare Information Technology Center stood up to serve the needs of the entire Navy. Four years later, in November 2004, the name was changed to SPAWAR Systems Center, New Orleans..

History of SPAWAR Space Field Activity: SPAWAR Space Field Activity, located in Chantilly, Va., was established in 1999 to provide line management staffing of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO); to coordinate naval space research, development and acquisition activities between NRO and other non-naval space programs; to provide naval space and warfare experience to develop superior and affordable space systems in support of national missions and joint, combined and naval operations; and to perform such other functions and tasks as may be assigned by higher authority. Naval Space Policy recognizes that space systems are essential to meeting naval war fighting requirements and enabling successful execution of the department's role. In 2004, the Secretary of the Navy announced the formation of the Program Executive Office for Space Systems to manage the Navy-directed, joint narrowband satellite communications program. Commander, SSFA, assumed this additional duty as well as Director, National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Communications Directorate. Naval personnel serving in billets across the Navy, joint and NSS communities, and their associated resources, are applied to a broad range of space-related activities, spanning planning and analysis of future needs, technologies and capabilities; research and development; on-orbit experimentation; acquisition; and system operation.