

EVOLUTION OF THE NAVY CHAPLAIN CORPS SEAL



1962—The Original Seal

The emblem centers on a white with a gold edge within which is the gold inscription, CHAPLAIN CORPS above and U.S. NAVY beneath. The center of the emblem is a red compass rose with gold points with a gray anchor in front of a dark blue shield superimposed thereon. The shield is charged on the viewer's left with a gold Cross and on the viewer's right with the Tablets of Moses surmounted by the Star of David, also in gold.



In **1981** Hebrew numerals replaced the Roman numerals on the tablets.



In **1996** the Muslim Crescent was added.

2001—Today's Chaplain Corps Seal

"VOCATI AD SERVITIUM," inscribed on a flowing, scarlet scroll, garnished in gold, evokes the thematic underpinnings of the emblem. The words, written in heraldic Latin, read "Called to Serve." The bronze eagle, claspings in its talons the ring of a golden anchor, maintains vigilance; it is stationed as sentinel to guard the free exercise of religion for Sea Services personnel. The open book, placed upon a blue polestar compass, suggests the doctrines, scriptures and guiding principles of religious tradition and wisdom. Additionally, it is reflective of a ship's log and a chronicle of Chaplain Corps service. The date, 1775, marks the founding of the Chaplain Corps. A line, associated with mooring and rigging, encircles the emblem representing the most basic elements of security and unity. The words, "United States Navy" above the eagle identify the source of our Nation's maritime strength. The words, "Chaplain Corps" positioned at the crown of the anchor reinforce our Nation's commitment to support the faith traditions of our Service men and women. The stars, separating the words, exemplify celestial navigation and Merchant Service are represented through the colors of red, white, blue, and gold.

