

Notes...from the Detailer

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PCS = PROBABLY COULD SLIDE



Chaplain Burt ready to brief PCS funding cuts at a recent PDTC.

When the FY 02 Defense Appropriations Bill was finally passed and hit the streets, we were already three and a half months into the Fiscal Year. We'd shot out of the PCS gates at "Mach 1" and, by the end of January, 65 sets of orders had been executed. Then we received the official "news" that the PERS 4414 portion of the PCS pie was \$1,537,100 for approximately 146 costed moves. Hmm, not quite the \$2,255,000.00 for 205 moves we had requested.

We felt like we'd left the pier for deployment and were well underway before being told we didn't have enough fuel to complete the mission. After a couple of weeks of waiting to see if it was all a mistake, we decided to begin a painful, yet necessary process, to erase a \$700,000 deficit that included orders already executed and orders projected for the remainder of FY 02.

Many of you have received orders modifications and won't report to your new duty stations until October 2002. We sincerely regret that you and your families have to go through this inconvenience. Most of the "old-timers" have experienced a "forced" extension and will tell you that the suffering is temporary. Some may even spin "yarns" about having their orders modified in transit to their new assignment. We hope that having several months to adjust your plans will minimize the negative impact of this change. And, most of you are going to the same great command you were promised by the Detailer.

Finally, here's a chance for some of you to "walk the talk." Every community, officer and enlisted, has been hit by this PCS funding shortfall. Maybe you've already had some disgruntled shipmates coming to see you about the strain this inconvenience is causing them personally. You can set and enforce the faith response, stay positive and motivated, and encourage them to trust God for "all things to work together for good" the same way you are trusting.