

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MINISTRY IN THE ARMED FORCES

Space limitations do not permit listing the more than two hundred fifty Members of the National Conference. Nevertheless, the Naval Reserve Association thanks the Members for their many efforts toward supporting the spiritual and other needs of the men and women in the Armed Forces and their families.

NAVY SABBATH - A BRIEF HISTORY

"Navy Sabbath" was established by the Naval Reserve Association in October 1966 in coordination with the Department of the Navy and national leaders of various religious organizations, to be observed on the weekend nearest the Navy Birthday on October 27 (changed to October 13 in 1972).

At the onset, Secretary of the Navy Paul H. Nitze stated, "I endorse your program and encourage support throughout the Navy . . . The interest of the Naval Reserve Association in endeavoring to increase the significance of Navy Day is appreciated." The Naval Reserve Association continued to sponsor Navy Sabbath annually in conjunction with the Navy Birthday until 1978.

In 1978, based on a recommendation by the Conference of Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agents for the Armed Forces and endorsed by the Navy Chief of Chaplains, the Naval Reserve Association changed the dates for observance of Navy Sabbath to the weekend preceding Veterans Day on November 11 rather than the Navy Birthday - on the basis that churches desired to recognize service to country by personnel of the other Armed Services as well as the Navy. Accordingly, since 1979, "Navy Sabbath" has been observed in coordination with "Armed Forces Sabbath" on the weekend preceding Veterans Day, November 11.

The Navy Hymn. . .

Eternal Father strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep.
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

Lord God our power evermore,
Whose arm doth reach the ocean floor,
Dive with our men beneath the sea,
Traverse the depths to us to bring
O hear us when we pray to keep
Them safe from peril in the deep.

Eternal Father, grant we pray
To all Marines both night and day
The courage, honor, strength and skill
Their land to serve Thy law fulfill
Be Thou the shield for evermore
From every peril to the Corps.

Lord, stand beside the men who build
With courage, strength and speed, and skill
Who labor dauntless day
Their aim to please Thy way.
Lord, hear our prayer for Seabees
Where ere they labor on land or seas.

Lord, guard and guide the men who fly
Through the great spaces in the sky.
Be with them always in the air,
In darkening storms or sunlight fair.
O hear us when we pray our prayer
For those in peril in the air. Amen.

Additional Courtesy Copies Available on Request
From Sponsor

Naval Reserve Association



Your participation in Navy Sabbath in coordination with Armed Forces

Sabbath

is requested
during the weekend
2-4 November 2001



"OUR LORD OF THE SEA"
Main Sanctuary Window
Naval Base Chapel, Philadelphia, PA 19112
"The Lord will guard your coming and your going,
both now and forever." Psalm 121:8