



To The Deckplates

Talking Points on Issues Relevant to the Navy's Chiefs Mess



Induction: Week 5
Release date: 6 September 2007

“Heritage should be stressed throughout the Induction process. Charge Books are a prime means to pay homage to our heritage and the history of the CPO.”

--MCPON (SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa, Jr.

- Induction training that I've attended has been outstanding and properly focused on the Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles.
- One area of concern is the manner in which we are making charge book entries. I've seen charge books that look like scrap books with stacks of pre-printed entries.
- It should be a rare occurrence that a pre-printed, impersonal note or letter serve as a charge book entry. It detracts from the intent and the history of the charge book.
- I expect our Chiefs to devote the time required to provide a personal inscription and talk to the selectee. The charge book entry and conversation with the selectee is part of one process, passing down knowledge from one generation of Sailor to the next.
- Letters to each Selectee are being sent from this office. I do not expect those to appear as substitutes for my handwritten entry. I consider it appropriate to sign books well after pinning and up to the beginning of next year's Induction.

“It's imperative that we begin passing down those stories, those experiences, those examples of honor, courage and commitment. I'm stressing to our Chiefs that they should be the beacons of Navy history, walking libraries full of anecdotes and experiences that relate to what our Sailors do today.”