

BILL WINNEY'S TIME IN WASHINGTON

When you think of a Navy veteran, you may think of bell bottoms and ships. But there's a lot more to the Navy than many people realize. For example, the Navy has a lot of pilots - and fighter planes. I don't know if we have more than the Air Force but we've got a bunch. And our pilots take off and land on aircraft carriers, no mean feat in itself. A little trickier than a stationary runway.

A lot of enlisted sailors serve time on board ship or on submarine duty - but not all. And not all officers serve on ships or subs either. Relatively few reach the level of a commanding officer. A very small percentage. Bill Winney was CO of a nuclear powered ballistic missile submarine (USS Benjamin Franklin) and a surface ship, the USS Holland, a submarine tender.

Bill Winney also served at a number of shore billets, including several that put him in Washington, D.C., or took him there regularly.

And, when he wasn't in Washington at the Pentagon or aboard a ship or submarine, he often worked with civilians. As far back as 1976, while at the Nuclear Propulsion Training Unit in Idaho Falls, Idaho, he worked with many civilian engineers and others not in the military. At the US Strategic Command in Omaha in the early '90s, as Chief of Command & Control, Bill often traveled to Washington and at one point, for several months, he spent most of his work week at the DoD. From September 1996-1998, he was assigned to the Office of the Asst to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Warfare) and was assigned to the office handling Nuclear Weapons within OATSD. He then headed the Seawolf and Virginia Class Attack Submarine programs in the Submarine Directorate Acquisition program. Finally, from 2000-2002, he was Ops Officer, Pacific Submarine Force, Pearl Harbor and traveled at least twice a month to D.C. on classified Submarine operations. Bill Winney put in his time in D.C. and at the Pentagon. He knows the ropes.

Message prepared by Dave Featherly, Navy veteran and a plankowner of the USS Jamestown (AGTR-3)

“Dropout factories?”

Is a high school “dropout” a student who leaves one school during his/her four years of high school but graduates at another school? What if they drop out of a public high school but finish the required curriculum as a home schooler? Or leave the state? Or gain a GED at a later date?

Or is a “dropout” one who drops out of high school and graduates from no other school - ever?

And maybe becomes an Associated Press reporter with their very own byline?

According to “an analysis of Education Department data conducted by Johns Hopkins for the Associated Press”, a tag of “dropout factory” is applied to a high

school where at least 40% of those who enter high school as a freshman do not make it to their senior years at that school. They could have all transferred to a charter high school and graduated with honors for all the AP knows, but they are a dropout for this analysis.

The national AP story said, almost unnoticed, that the 12% of national high schools considered “dropout factories” was “no more than a decade ago but no less, either.”

If things don't change in a decade, is it really big enough news to justify a banner headline in 60 point type?

You can just imagine the multiple trips

made by the Johns Hopkins analyst to Wyoming to be certain the data was accurate, fair and made sense. They surely knew that Jim McBride had become State Superintendent of Schools a couple years ago and scant credible information is likely to be generated from his office.

So, the analysis is done on reported data. To put a little more of a personal dig on the stories, it was alleged that Rawlins and Wyoming Indian have the highest dropout rates in the state of Wyoming.

Only some pointy-headed conservative in Baltimore would be unaware that education is a special challenge in inner cities, low income and ghetto areas and on Indian reservations.

The local APer reached new employees in both Rawlins and Ethete and published

answers that, basically, said they didn't have an answer for the high dropout rate alleged because they just got off the bus themselves. Instead of pursuing a more seasoned answer, that lack of information was used in the story.

Both Rawlins and Wyoming Indian high schools dispute the accuracy of the story. They have both tried to get the information corrected or explained but the AP isn't interested in that angle. But the WT-E and Casper Star aren't too long on correcting erroneous information they've published.

There was also no effort to see if the two schools demonized had a pattern of high dropout rates or if the year analyzed was an anomaly. Because, once again, in Wyoming there are no standards of accuracy required of the controlled press.

See Rawlins response on Page 4

American
Storage & Postal Service

Mail Box • US Mail • UPS • DHL • Fed Ex • Copies • Fax • Notary • Packing

5' x 10' —	\$40 per month
10' x 10' —	\$65 per month
10' x 15' —	\$70 per month

Outside Storage for Boats & Campers Available!

12' x 20' has electric —	\$100 per month
12' x 30' has electric —	\$145 per month
12' x 42' has electric —	\$185 per month

FREE Truck Use
with Move-In!

1903 S. Greeley Hwy. • 635-9335 • Fax 635-9129
Office Hours: Monday – Saturday 8:30 am – 6 pm

Military Discount Available

VISA

College Drive

CHEYENNE'S ORIGINAL STEAK HOUSE

T-Joe's

Has Your Favorites Every Night
Walleye, Grilled Chicken,
Pork Chops, Steaks, More!

New!! Blackened Prime Rib
Marinated Rib Eye
Cold Stone Creamery® Petite Cakes

Nightly Specials!
Fresh Hand-Cut Ribeye Steaks

Pete's Pickle Parlor

12700 E. I-80 Service Rd.
Dining: Mon-Sat 11 am - 10 pm / 4-10 pm Sunday
SMOKE-FREE DINING ROOM
SMOKING (AND DINING) IN BAR

5 miles east of Cheyenne - Hwy 30 / Pershing / I-80 at Archer (Exit 370) / 634-8750

ided by Dave Featherly