

## Supply Corps History



The primary mission of the Supply Corps is to provide expertise to the Navy and other services...including logistics, acquisition, and financial management...afloat and ashore. The 2,695 Naval Officers...from Warrant Officer to Rear Admiral...who proudly wear the "Oak Leaf" insignia of the Supply Corps are the business managers of the Navy responsible for the supply and logistic support of the ships of the active Fleet and hundreds of Naval shore installations located worldwide. The U.S. Navy's Supply Corps traces its 200 year history from its beginnings in 1795 with the appointment of the nation's first Purveyor of Public Supplies, through a series of organizational and name changes to today's competent group of Navy businessmen and women. The Supply Corps' history is the story of its people, those who served first as Naval agents, and finally as Supply Corps Officers. Over the years, the men and women of the Supply Corps have come to exemplify the characteristics of ingenuity, creativity, perseverance, and dedication in their efforts to provide "Service to the Fleet." Each of their stories has a place in the context of American Naval history and reflect the struggle of the nation to evolve into the world's most modern and efficient sea power. Since 1795, when the Supply Corps was assigned the task of supporting six frigates, its duties and responsibilities have kept pace with the expanding scope of the modern Navy's mission. Supplying the Navy with items essential to the operation of modern ships, aircraft and facilities, and providing fuel, food, transportation, clothing, and services to the men and women of the Navy in an effective, expeditious, and economic manner demands the dedication and know-how of an expertly trained and highly skilled Officer Corps. To meet this challenge, the Supply Corps requires its officers to be schooled and experienced in a variety of disciplines such as inventory control, financial management, contracting, information systems, operations analysis, material and operational logistics, fuels management, and physical distribution. Officers of the Supply Corps are aware of the challenges ahead and will continue to make an essential contribution to the operational efficiency and fighting effectiveness of U.S. Naval and Joint Forces. Their continuing vision is to be combat ready logisticians supporting Joint and Naval operations around the globe.

