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**From:** Austin, Meredith CAPT  
**To:** 'Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil'  
**Sent:** 6/23/2010 1:31:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: NGA Director Visit

It might make you feel a bit better to know that a similar thing happened in 1980 off the Gulf coast of Mexico when the IXTOC I well blew out, discharging over 100 million gallons of oil. Tarballs reached the coast of Texas that needed to be cleaned up, but over the next several years Mother Nature took care of the oil in the water, fisheries recovered and beaches were again supportive of life. There is incredible resiliency to our environment---it's our job to help the process in the most environmentally benign method possible (we don't want to do more damage doing the cleanup--that happened in Valdez when they steam cleaned beaches/rocks---it looked wonderful, but killed all of the little critters under the rocks).

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 11:30 AM  
To: Austin, Meredith CAPT  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

Let me know what you decide when you decide it.

From where I sit, feeling the longterm seriousness of what is happening and knowing your commitment and expertise in this area, I'm glad you are there. Somehow it feels like the right stuff will be done. You're my friend and I want you to also take care of yourself and remain healthy.

Kathleen

-----Original Message-----

From: Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil [mailto:Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 11:13 AM  
To: Neary Kathleen A Ms NGA-HDSPS USA CIV  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

That's what it would mean...I am strongly ambivalent--don't want to leave the response in a lurch, want to get this stupid thing over with and perhaps come back later. No one is irreplaceable, but we're doing some good stuff here and I would hate for us to lose what we've gained.

M

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 9:53 AM  
To: Austin, Meredith CAPT  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

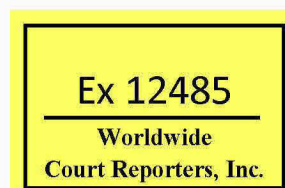
If they don't let you go due to mission requirements, will that mean you have to change your surgery date?

Because of this nomination process, I'm not sure after I throw my hat in that I can change my mind. Trying to understand all that the position entails. Previous incumbent had no communications experience, only production. There is a staff of high level contractors with coms experience and one government person with none. Our new director takes command in August and it will be the first woman for our agency. So, it could be an exciting time.

Kathleen

-----Original Message-----

From: Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil [mailto:Meredith.L.Austin@uscg.mil]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 10:45 AM  
To: Neary Kathleen A Ms NGA-HDSPS USA CIV  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit



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Definitely throw your hat in...you can always turn it down.

The beach impact is not as dire as the TV says...you should take a look at it so you can decide for yourself-not what the media want you to see.

I didn't see your director...I was busy in other mtgs.

Try to have a good time while you're both down there--it won't be fun, but it'll be satisfying. I theory, I should be back in NJ by then, but w/ the chance that there might be tropical wx they may not let me go...

Meredith

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil [mailto:Kathleen.A.Neary@nga.mil]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 9:29 AM  
To: Austin, Meredith CAPT  
Subject: RE: NGA Director Visit

Did you get a chance to see/meet our director. The director for our Analyis and Production Directorate should have been out that way too.

Just been asked about interest in being the NGA Director and Deputy Director Communications Lead for a two year assignment. Am seriously thinking about it, but have to make up mind quickly and throw my hat in for consideration. It will be high pressure and fast paced, but would get me back into the communications field and possibly a good career move -- long term. There will be more travel. And, of course, I'm concerned a bit about future health issues.

Anita and I are scheduled to be in the Fort Walton/Santa Rosa area the 9th through 12th to help with the Emerald Coast Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Heard oil just washed ashore. I'm not sure I want to see this first hand.

Hope all is well with you.

Kathleen

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