

New Port Director

■ John M. Holmes is named Director of Operations at the Harbor.

HARBOR — John M. Holmes, former United States Coast Guard Captain of the Port for the Los Angeles-Long Beach port complex, is joining the Port of Los Angeles as Director of Operations. As the senior official in this critical area, Capt. Holmes will oversee the operations of the Los Angeles Port Police, the Homeland Security Division, emergency preparedness planning and the Port Pilot service.

"John Holmes has an international reputation as a strong, innovative leader and a track record of acting swiftly and decisively in partnership with local agencies to keep the Port safe in the face of hostile, natural or operations-related crises," said Geraldine Knatz, Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles.

"We could not ask for a more qualified and credible leader for our security and emergency operations functions. We are very pleased that he is returning to an environment he knows so well — this time as a member of our senior team here at the Port of Los Angeles."

He most recently served as a principal and Chief Operating Officer of the Marsec Group, a full service security consulting firm specializing in supply chain security, technology and operations. Prior to forming the Marsec Group, Capt. Holmes held the position of Vice President and Director of Business Development for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC),

where he assisted government and commercial customers in the development of technological solutions to homeland security challenges, with emphasis on port, border and military security solutions.

Holmes retired from the United States Coast Guard in 2003 with 27 years service.

He retired as Commanding Officer, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection and Captain of the Port for the Los Angeles-Long Beach port complex — the nation's largest and most critical port complex. He is credited with swift and decisive actions at the Port of Los Angeles-Long Beach complex in the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001, and as the driving force in a number of national security initiatives including: the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA); the establishment of Area Maritime Security Committees; and the Sea Marshal Program.

While in the Coast Guard, Holmes also served as Deputy Chief of the Coast Guard Office of Congressional Affairs in Washington, D.C.; was attached to the staff of the Governor of American Samoa and the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore; and also served as Delegate and Committee Chairman at the International Maritime Organization in London.

He holds Bachelor's degrees in English and education from Boston College, and a Master's degree in business administration from the John M. Olin School of Business at Washington University in St. Louis.



John M. Holmes

Their Man In Iraq

■ Transportation salutes one of their own serving in Iraq.

Story and photos courtesy Linda Aparacio, Public Information Director, DOT

TRANSPORTATION — On Nov. 7, Transportation sent a Veterans Day care package to U.S. Army Reserve Maj. Thomas Nguyen, Transportation Engineering Associate II. Nguyen has been stationed in Iraq since June 2006. He has been on active duty since December 2003.

Nguyen has worked for Transportation since 1989 in various assignments including signal timing, regulation analysis, geometric design, and Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control (ATSAC). He and his wife, Clara, have two daughters, Andrea, 15, and Claire, 14.

"We are so proud of Tom for serving our coun-

try," said Gloria Jeff, General Manager, Transportation. "We miss him and we want to show him that he is in our hearts and prayers as we observe Veterans Day."

The care package was the brainchild of Transportation colleague Lan Nguyen (no relation), Transportation Engineer. Lan collected candy, books, magazines, personal care items, photos, cards and letters from colleagues and posted the items personally.

"I know he misses friends and family here very much. It is the least I could do for a good man," Lan said.

"This is just another example of the family atmosphere at Transportation," Gloria Jeff said.

For more information on sending care packages to United States Armed Forces, go to www.usocares.org/src/uso_home



U.S. Army Reserve Maj. Thomas Nguyen, Transportation Engineering Associate II, and his wife, Clara.

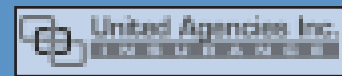


U.S. Army Reserve Maj. Thomas Nguyen, Transportation Engineering Associate II, is on active duty in Iraq.

REST INSURED

by JEFF GELINEAU

Vice President of United Agencies,
The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner



Mold Lang Syne

■ Club Members: Give a warm welcome to this new auto and home insurance column by Club Partner Jeff Gelineau.

Hi, everybody! I'm Jeff Gelineau, your auto and home insurance partner. I'm very happy to be part of the Club family and this great newspaper.

I'm looking forward to writing every month and giving you some things to think about in terms of personal insurance.

But the first thing I want to tell you is: What do you want to know from me? I am happy to answer any questions that you may have, either one on one, or here in my column. So send me those questions (my address is at the bottom), and I will be happy to help you.

Let's start off our new friendship by talking about an old enemy ... mold.

That musty smell in your grandparent's basement doesn't just bring back memories of playing hide and seek with your little brother. It also brings sinus problems, headaches, respiratory difficulties and nausea.

It's called mold. We've lived with mold in our environment for years. Now that more people are aware of it and its negative effects on our health, it has become an issue.

Mold is formed on any organic surface (wood, wallboard, carpet, etc.) and grows where there is moisture and humidity. The best way to prevent mold is to keep all areas dry and well ventilated. If you do have any accidental exposure to water in your home, be sure that it is repaired swiftly and properly.

Insurance adjusters are very experienced in mold prevention, and it is important to cooperate fully with the insurance company in the event of a claim to properly address any cur-

rent or future damage.

Unfortunately, most insurance policies now include very clear mold exclusions, so no (or very little) coverage exists for repairing or removing this problem. It is very important therefore that you make sure that you properly address any water-related issue to ensure that mold does not form.

There are several companies around now with experience removing and repairing the damage caused by mold. Although sometimes these repairs can be expensive, if you act quickly enough you can often take care of any problem for a very reasonable amount.

This can be a serious health issue, and we encourage you to treat it properly.

Feel free to call our agency if you have any questions about mold; would like to know if your homeowners insurance policy covers it; or would like information on filing a claim.

United Agencies is the Club's partner and is helping members with their home and auto insurance and related products. We specialize in creating personal relationships with our customers and serving their needs in a prompt, efficient and friendly manner.

Have a question?

Is there something about insurance that you've always wanted to know, but were too ashamed to ask? Maybe something that you've just always been curious about? Feel free to email me, Jeff Gelineau, at jgelineau@unitedagencies.com, and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

Be safe and have fun!

Call Patty Pulido or Suzanne Egli today at (888) 801-5522.
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