

Don Stivers’ Warrant Officer Print “*LET GO!*” Now Available

The leadership of the U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA) is pleased to announce the availability of unique Warrant Officer art by contemporary military artist Don Stivers. USAWOA commissioned one thousand prints. Each print will show the USAWOA logo, a serial number, and the signature of the artist.

The artwork commemorates the birth of the Army Warrant Officer Corps: that being the July 1918 act of Congress founding the *Army Mine Planter Service* as part of the Coast Artillery Corps. The act designated warrant officers to serve as masters, mates, chief engineers and assistant engineers of mine-planting vessels.



The artwork is the first by Don Stivers with a maritime theme and depicts Army Mine Planters in action. A warrant officer (of First Mate rank) is shouting “*Let Go!*” Upon that command, a mine was released from the Mine Planter ship and placed in the water. We have chosen that to be the title of the print.

Contact mines were simply anchored to the bottom. However, mines that were fired by an electrical impulse were connected to an onshore observation and firing station by a series of cables and distribution boxes. “*Let Go!*” portrays this action with electrical mines being planted from a “planter” ship. Several smaller distribution boats (called “J” boats) stand by to receive the cables.

Mine Planter warrant officers served with distinction in this hazardous field through both World Wars and other conflicts, protecting America’s coastal cities and seaports. Additionally, Mine Planters saw duty in the waters off the Philippines as well as Central and South America.

Although primarily coastal ships by design and mission, two mine planter ships were lost to enemy action. The ship *Planter Frank* was lost in 1942 near Maui, Hawaii, and the *Harrison* was captured by the Japanese in the Philippines and sunk in 1945.

The Army Mine Planter Service was discontinued in 1948. However, the formation of the Service was the genesis of the Army Warrant Officer Corps. Eighty-five years later, Warrant Officers of the active Army, Army Guard and Army Reserve proudly carry forward the rich heritage and traditions of the “Mine Planters” of their heritage, and demonstrate professional mastery of highly technical, military skills.

In tribute to the service of the Mine Planters Service and in recognition of today’s Army Warrant Officers, Don Stivers created this work “*Let Go!*”

Ordering policy:

- 1. The USAWOA-commissioned print will be sold only to USAWOA members.** The artist will make an additional 1000 prints (without the USAWOA logo) available to his dealer network.
- 2. Price of the print (unframed) is \$195.00.** (Virginia residents add \$8.75 sales tax.) Price includes shipping in a durable, flat container. Prints are shipped directly from the artist’s studio; none are available at the USAWOA home office.
- 3. For the first 120 days** of sale (approximately Sep 1 – Dec 31, 2003) the following applies:
 - a. Members who own the USAWOA - Don Stivers’ print ***“The Quiet Professional”*** may order the ***“Let Go!”*** print with the same serial number. USAWOA will verify membership status and the serial number requested against our records. Verified orders will be shipped immediately.
 - b. Other members may also order ***“Let Go!”*** during this period. However, shipment will not be made until shortly after Dec 31. A specific serial number may be requested; however, based on earlier sales, the requested number may not be available. Orders that do not request a specific serial number will be filled with the next available number.
- 4. After the initial 120 day sale period,** all orders will be processed as explained in 3b (above).

The (“Let Go” order form is on the next page

and

NEWSLINER Bulletin Board for resale of “The Quiet Professional” print is on page 4)

Order Form – “Let Go”

USAWOA Members in good standing only, please.

Essential information: (Please print all areas clearly)

Name (as appears on membership card) _____

Address _____
(Include apartment number, etc. URB for Puerto Rico. Cannot ship to P.O. Box, APO/FPO ship is ok.)

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Is this shipping address different from what is shown in USAWOA files (NEWSLINER address)?
No [] **Yes** []

Phone _____ **E-Mail** _____
(In case we need to contact you about this order.)

I now own the USAWOA - Don Stivers’ print “The Quiet Professional.”
No **Yes** The serial number of my print is _____ (bottom left margin)

I wish to order “Let Go!” with:
The same serial number []
A different number [] (First choice _____) (Second choice _____)
Makes no difference []

Payment: \$195.00 each print.
(Those with Virginia shipping addresses must add \$8.75sales tax. Total \$ 203.75)

Check or Money Order [] Credit card [] Visa [] Master Card [] AMEX [] Discover []
(No Debit cards)
Card Number _____

Expires _____ / _____

Send order form and full payment to:

USAWOA, 462 Herndon Parkway, Suite 207, Herndon VA, 20170-5235

Fax orders to 703-742-7728

Membership interest survey:

I would buy note cards with “Let Go!” on the front if available. **Yes** [] **No** []

(Stivers’ Studio quality, 10 cards, 4 1/2 x 6”, w/envelopes, similar to our “**The Quiet Professional**” cards @ \$17.00)

USAWOA Provides "Bulletin Board" for Resale of "The Quiet Professional."



Members inquire about both the sale and purchase of the Don Stivers' warrant officer print, ***"The Quite Professional."*** Those owning the print may now live in a smaller home or may have reduced interest in displaying the print. Likewise, newly appointed warrant officers, or retirees rejoining USAWOA, may learn of the print and wish to purchase one.

It is believed that with the introduction of the follow-on warrant officer print, interest in purchasing the first print will also increase. Therefore, USAWOA will offer a NEWSLINER "Bulletin Board" for members that wish to sell their print. We choose to do this in the NEWSLINER rather than the Web Site. This is because we prefer that members be able to buy the prints for resale. Placing such the resale bulletin board on the web could result in anyone being able to contact a seller.

DO NOT SEND PRINTS TO USAWOA. Rather, we will serve as a point where one can advertise the sale of a print. Those interesting in buying a print will contact the seller directly and make their deal for purchase, shipping, payment, and satisfaction. USAWOA will not handle money or ***"The Quiet Professional"*** prints.

To place a "for sale" notice in the NEWSLINER, please provide the following information to USAWOA by calling us at 800-587-2962 or by email to usawoa@cavtel.net

- Your (seller's) name and member number
- Print number
- Color of the primary (largest) matting (e.g. "green")
- Style and color of frame (e.g. "fancy gold")
- Whether or not the print is personalized (e.g. "Congratulations on Retirement")
- The desired selling price
- Location of the print (e.g. St. Louis, MO)
- Information as to how a prospective buyer can contact the seller

It is important to advise USAWOA when a print is sold so the advertisement can be deleted from the bulletin board.

It is also important to know that USAWOA is not a guarantor of the transaction. Sellers should insure that the print is accurately described and properly prepared for shipping. (USAWOA recommends use of a professional boxing/shipping firm.) Sellers should not ship until funds are received and clear the bank.