

CHAPTER ONE
MISSION, POLICY AND DOCTRINE

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CHAPTER ONE

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1000. NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS

1001. DEFINITION

- .1 "Naval Communications" is a comprehensive term which connotes the aggregate rapid communication effort of the Naval Establishment both afloat and ashore. Although it embraces all the facilities, personnel and techniques employed for the purpose of rapid communications by the Naval Establishment, it does not connote a formally constituted organization.

1010. RELATIONSHIP TO COMMAND

1011. VOICE OF COMMAND

- .1 Naval communications is the instrument by which a commander makes his will known, and as such is the "voice of command." Any transmission accomplished by naval communications, afloat or ashore, speaks only for and with the authority of the commander who originates the transmission.
- .2 With this authority over naval communications, commanders have the responsibility of maintaining adequate communications.
- .3 Command organizations are subject to unexpected changes, and communications must have the inherent flexibility to meet these changes.

1012. CONTROL OF NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS

- .1 Responsibility for the control of naval communications follows the organizational chain of command.

1013. SENIOR OFFICER PRESENT

- .1 The authority of the senior officer present afloat (SOPA) prevails over communications afloat, including those shore stations assigned to the operating forces. The authority of the senior officer present ashore prevails over communications ashore. Necessary communication coordination between the two shall be effected by the senior officer present, whether afloat or ashore.

1014. FLAG AND SENIOR OFFICERS AFLOAT

- .1 In flagships, the flag officer normally shall assume jurisdiction over communications therein. However, the commanding officer of the flagship is not relieved of his responsibility for the proper internal handling of messages to and from his own command as distinguished from the flag.

1015. COMMANDS ASHORE

- .1 District Commandants are responsible for the coordinated operation of naval communication facilities within their respective districts. The details of communications between districts shall be handled, as far as possible, directly between District Commandants.

1020. MISSION

1021. SERVICE OF COMMAND

- .1 The mission of naval communications is to provide and maintain reliable, secure, and rapid communications, based on war requirements adequate to meet the needs of the Operating Forces, the Navy Department, and the Naval Shore Establishment; primarily to serve operations and secondarily, to facilitate administration.

1030. POLICY

1031. NAVAL COMMUNICATION POLICY

- .1 The policy of naval communications is:
 - (a) To maintain and operate adequate, efficient and secure communications, fully capable of fulfilling the Mission.
 - (b) To cooperate with the military services and other departments and agencies of the U.S. Government and Allied nations.
 - (c) To encourage development of those commercial communication activities (including amateur) which will enhance the military posture and other interests of the United States.
 - (d) To maintain facilities for adequate communication with ships of the maritime trade, aircraft flying over the sea, and shore radio stations of the maritime service for the promotion of safety of life at sea and in the air.

1040. DOCTRINE

1041. CONCEPT

- .1 The primary concept of naval communications is to meet the requirements of war. To this end organization, methods, procedures, facilities, and training must be adequate to meet war or emergency requirements and must be flexible in order to provide for rapid expansion.
- .2 Peacetime methods must be such that only a few minor changes will be required when shifting to an emergency or war status.

1042. PRINCIPLES

- .1 Based upon the above concept, the following principles have been proved under war conditions:
 - (a) Reliability, security and speed are the three fundamental requirements of naval communications. Reliability is always paramount. It must never be lessened or sacrificed to achieve security or speed. Whenever there is a conflict between the demands of security and speed, the one or the other must be sacrificed in the light of the demands of the situation.
 - (b) Success of operations in a large measure depends upon effective communications which require a basic knowledge and appreciation of how, when and where to send messages.

1042.1 (Continued)

- (c) The most detailed instructional publications and the most up-to-date equipment in no way lessen the need for initiative, common sense and good judgment in the planning and conduct of naval communications.
- (d) Correct methods of operation and precise use of established procedures are essential to effective communications.
- (e) Rapid communications must be limited to the minimum required for the successful accomplishment of the operational task assigned. Proper administrative planning and foresight are required to ensure that rapid communications are employed only when other means of communication will not suffice.
- (f) Proper choice of frequency is of the greatest importance in establishing and maintaining reliable radio communications.
- (g) Communications media which are susceptible to interception should not be used in wartime when a more secure means will serve.
- (h) Additional fleet operational communication doctrine is contained in NWP 16 and NWIP-16-1.

1050. BASIC ORGANIZATION OF NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS

1051. ELEMENTS

.1 The major elements of naval communications are:

- (a) The Director, Naval Communications. The Director, Naval Communications is the flag officer, within the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, responsible for the overall supervision and coordination of naval communications.
- (b) The Naval Communication System. The Naval Communication System is a fixed, integrated global communication network which forms the world-wide framework of naval communications.
- (c) Communication Departments of Activities of the Shore Establishment. Communication departments of activities of the Shore Establishment are organizational components of the station or activity which they serve.
- (d) Communication Organizations of the Operating Forces. Communication organizations of the Operating Forces are integral components of the ship or unit.

1052. INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF THE ELEMENTS OF NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS

.1 The elements of naval communications bear the following relationship to each other:

- (a) The Director, Naval Communications maintains technical control of naval communications and provides the necessary coordination and planning, at departmental level, in connection therewith, in order to insure the provision at all times of efficient communication support for the Naval Establishment. Further, the Chief of Naval Operations (DNC), with due regard for the doctrine which establishes communications as a function of command, exercises management and coordination control of those elements of naval communications comprising the Naval Communication System and the Naval Security Group.

1052.1 (Continued)

- (b) The Naval Communication System, one of the principal elements of naval communications, is a network of communication systems with associated facilities, integrated into a global system, designed and engineered to provide adequate, efficient, reliable and secure rapid record and other communication services for the Naval Shore Establishment and the Operating Forces. The Chief of Naval Operations (DNC) manages, operates, maintains and provides for the improvement of the Naval Communication System.
- (c) The communication departments of activities of the Shore Establishment provide communication facilities and services for the activity of which the department is an integral component and often for other activities co-located, in support of the mission of the activity concerned and the forces afloat as may be required. These communication departments are normally tributaries of the Naval Communication System and in some instances perform functions in support of the mission of that System.
- (d) Within the Operating Forces the communication organizations (divisions, sections, staff departments, communication battalions, etc.) operate and maintain the authorized equipment to provide the communication service essential to the coordinated control of ships, aircraft and Marine Corps troops in the accomplishment of the assigned missions and tasks. At the level of the Operating Forces, communication is the voice of command in a visible and tangible way and the communication service provided often influences directly and materially the degree of success achieved by the force, squadron, division or other combat unit.