

(3) Officials of foreign governments.

**§ 700.704 Readiness.**

Commanders shall take all practicable steps to maintain their commands in a state of readiness to perform their missions. In conformity with the orders and policies of higher authority, they shall:

(a) Organize the forces and resources under their command and assign duties to their principal subordinate commanders;

(b) Prepare plans for the employment of their forces to meet existing and foreseeable situations;

(c) Collaborate with the commanders of other United States armed services and with appropriate officials of other federal agencies and foreign governments located within the area encompassed by their commands;

(d) Maintain effective intelligence and keep themselves informed of the political and military aspects of the national and international situation;

(e) Make, or cause to be made, necessary inspections to ensure the readiness, effectiveness and efficiency of the components of their commands; and

(f) Develop, in accordance with directives issued by higher authority, training strategies and plans for their commands.

**§ 700.705 Observance of international law.**

At all times, commanders shall observe, and require their commands to observe, the principles of international law. Where necessary to fulfill this responsibility, a departure from other provisions of Navy Regulations is authorized.

**§ 700.706 Keeping immediate superiors informed.**

Commanders shall keep their immediate superiors appropriately informed of:

(a) The organization of their commands, the prospective and actual movements of the units of their commands, and the location of their headquarters;

(b) Plans for employment of their forces;

(c) The condition of their commands and of any required action pertaining

thereto which is beyond their capacity or authority;

(d) Intelligence information which may be of value;

(e) Any battle, engagement or other significant action involving units of their commands;

(f) Any important service or duty performed by persons or units of their commands; and

(g) Unexecuted orders and matters of interest upon being relieved of command.

STAFFS OF COMMANDERS

**§ 700.710 Organization of a staff.**

(a) The term "staff" means those officers and other designated persons assigned to a commander to assist him or her in the administration and operation of his or her command.

(b) The officer detailed as chief of staff and aide to a fleet admiral or admiral normally shall be a vice admiral or a rear admiral. The officer detailed as chief of staff and aide to a vice admiral or rear admiral shall normally be a rear admiral or a captain. The detailing of a vice commander or a deputy to a commander shall be reserved for selected commanders. An officer detailed as chief staff officer to another officer shall normally not be of the same grade as that officer.

(c) The staff shall be organized into such divisions as may be prescribed by the commander concerned or by higher authority. These divisions shall conform in nature and designation, as practicable and as appropriate, to those of the staffs of superiors.

(d) The staff of a flag or general officer may include one or more personal aides.

**§ 700.711 Authority and responsibilities of officers of a staff.**

(a) The chief of staff and aide or chief staff officer, under the commander, shall be responsible for supervising and coordinating the work of the staff and shall be kept informed of all matters pertaining to that work. All persons attached to the staff, except a vice commander or deputy responsible directly to the commander shall be subordinate to the chief of staff and aide