

permitted to rise above the keel blocks prior to receipt of this report. The above valves and openings shall be tended during flooding of the dock.

(c) When a ship or craft, not in commission, is in a naval drydock, the provisions of this article shall apply, except that the commanding officer of the docking activity or his representative shall act in the capacity of the commanding officer of the ship or craft.

(d) When a naval ship or craft is in drydock in a private shipyard, responsibility for actions normally assigned by the commanding officer of the docking activity will be assigned by contract to the contractor.

§ 700.873 Inspection incident to commissioning of ships.

When a ship is to be commissioned, the authority designated to place such ship in commission shall, just prior to commissioning, cause an inspection to be made to determine the cleanliness and readiness of the ship to receive its crew and outfit. In the case of the delivery of a ship by a contractor, the above inspection shall precede acceptance of the ship. A copy of the report of this inspection shall be furnished the officer detailed to command the ship and to appropriate commands.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES/PROSPECTIVE
COMMANDING OFFICERS**

§ 700.880 Duties of the prospective commanding officer of a ship.

(a) Except as may be prescribed by the Chief of Naval Operations, the prospective commanding officer of a ship not yet commissioned shall have no independent authority over the preparation of the ship for service by virtue of his assignment to such duty, until the ship is commissioned and placed under his or her command. The prospective commanding officer shall:

(1) Procure from the commander of the naval shipyard or the supervisor of shipbuilding the general arrangement plans of the ship, and all pertinent information relative to the general condition of the ship and the work being undertaken on the hull, machinery and equipment, upon reporting for duty;

(2) Inspect the ship as soon after reporting for duty as practicable, and frequently thereafter, in order to keep him or herself informed of the state of her preparation for service. If, during the course of these inspections he or she notes an unsafe or potentially unsafe condition, he or she shall report such fact to the commander of the naval shipyard or the supervisor of shipbuilding and to his or her superior for resolution;

(3) Keep him or herself informed as to the progress of the work being done, including tests of equipment, and make such recommendations to the commander of the naval shipyard or the supervisor of shipbuilding as he or she deems appropriate;

(4) Ensure that requisitions are submitted for articles to outfit the ship which are not otherwise being provided;

(5) Prepare the organization of the ship;

(6) Train the nucleus crew to effectively and efficiently take charge of and operate the ship upon commissioning; and

(7) Make such reports as may be required by higher authority, and include therein a statement of any deficiency in material or personnel.

(b) If the prospective commanding officer does not consider the ship in proper condition to be commissioned at the time the commander of the naval shipyard or the supervisor of shipbuilding signifies his intention of transferring the ship to the prospective commanding officer, he or she shall report that conclusion with his reasons therefor, in writing, to the commander of the naval shipyard or the supervisor of shipbuilding and to the appropriate higher authority.

(c) If the ship is elsewhere than at a naval shipyard, the relationship between the prospective commanding officer and the supervisor of shipbuilding, or other appropriate official, shall be the same as that between the prospective commanding officer and the commander of a naval shipyard as specified in this article.

(d) The Chief of Naval Operations shall be responsible for providing the commanding officer or prospective commanding officer of a naval nuclear

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powered ship with the authority and direction necessary to carry out his or her responsibilities.

Subpart I—The Senior Officer Present

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§ 700.901 The senior officer present.

Unless some other officer has been so designated by competent authority, the “senior officer present” is the senior line officer of the Navy on active duty, eligible for command at sea, who is present and in command of any part of the Department of the Navy in the locality or within an area prescribed by competent authority, except where personnel of both the Navy and the Marine Corps are present on shore and the officer of the Marine Corps who is in command is senior to the senior line officer of the Navy. In such cases, the officer of the Marine Corps shall be the senior officer present on shore.

§ 700.902 Eligibility for command at sea.

All officers of the line of the Navy, including Naval Reserve, on active duty, except those designated for the performance of engineering, aeronautical engineering or special duties, and except those limited duty officers who are not authorized to perform all deck duties afloat, are eligible for command at sea.

§ 700.903 Authority and responsibility.

At all times and places not excluded in these regulations, or in orders from competent authority, the senior officer present shall assume command and direct the movements and efforts of all persons in the Department of the Navy present, when, in his or her judgment, the exercise of authority for the purpose of cooperation or otherwise is necessary. The senior officer present shall exercise this authority in a manner consistent with the operational command responsibility vested in the commanders of unified or specified commands.

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§ 700.904 Authority of senior officer of the Marine Corps present.

The authority and responsibility of the senior officer present are also conferred upon the senior commanding officer of the Marine Corps present with respect to those units of the Marine Corps, including Navy personnel attached, which are in the locality and not under the authority of the senior officer present.

§ 700.922 Shore patrol.

(a) When liberty is granted to any considerable number of persons, except in an area that can absorb them without danger of disturbance or disorder, the senior officer present shall cause to be established, temporarily or permanently, in charge of an officer, a sufficient patrol of officers, petty officers, and noncommissioned officers to maintain order and suppress any unseemly conduct on the part of any person on liberty. The senior patrol officer shall communicate with the chief of police or other local officials and make such arrangements as may be practicable to aid the patrol in carrying out its duties properly. Such duties may include providing assistance to military personnel in relations with civil courts and police, arranging for release of service personnel from civil authorities to the parent command, and providing other services that favorably influence discipline and morale.

(b) A patrol shall not be landed in any foreign port without first obtaining the consent of the proper local officials. Tact must be used in requesting permission; and, unless it is given willingly and cordially, the patrol shall not be landed. If consent cannot be obtained, the size of liberty parties shall be held to such limits as may be necessary to render disturbances unlikely.

(c) Officers and enlisted personnel on patrol duty in a foreign country normally should not be armed. In the United States, officers and men may be armed as prescribed by the senior officer present.

(d) No officer or enlisted person who is a member of the shore patrol or beach guard, or is assigned in support thereof, shall partake of or indulge in any form of intoxicating beverage or other form of intoxicant while on duty,