

## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS 2000 NAVY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 5450.335A N00N 3 Dec 2014

## OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.335A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subject: FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FORCE NUCLEAR PROPULSION

ORGANIZATION FOR COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR FORCES

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST C3000.5E (NOTAL)

(b) NAVSEAINST C9210.4 (NOTAL)

(c) COMUSFLTFORCOMINST 4790.3

(d) OPNAVINST N3040.5D (NOTAL)

- To codify the functional requirements for the Purpose. Commander, Naval Air Force, Pacific and Commander Naval Air Force, Atlantic Force Nuclear Propulsion organization (COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9) of Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (COMNAVAIRSYSCOM) using guidance as set forth in references (a) through (d). This instruction adds requirements for COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 staffs to conduct training for prospective principal assistants and assistant reactor officers. In addition, it codifies other functions performed, such as coordinating training and manning for carrier construction and deactivation. Lastly, it sets forth technical requirements for personnel who are nominated to serve on the COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 staff. This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.
- 2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 5450.335.
- 3. <u>Discussion</u>. The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier (CVN) fleet is the naval centerpiece of national defense. The COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 was established in 1994 pursuant to an agreement between Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion and Commander, Naval Air Force Pacific, and Commander, Naval Air Force, Atlantic to manage type commander (TYCOM) responsibilities for the operation, training, repair, and reactor safety of the CVN force. COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 provides the continuity of experience in sharing the best practices and lessons learned for CVNs either operating at sea or undergoing maintenance availabilities and complex overhauls in the shipyard. Today, this nuclear-experienced oversight is vital in executing the optimized fleet response plan.

## 4. Action

- a. Commander, Naval Air Forces shall establish the organization, descriptions, and responsibilities of the COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 based on the following functional requirements:
- (1) Oversee operation, training, readiness, reactor safety, maintenance actions, and sharing of best practices and lessons learned pertaining to CVN force nuclear propulsion in a capacity similar to an immediate superior in command.
- (2) Give TYCOM indoctrination and training on best practices to prospective CVN commanding officers, executive officers, reactor officers, and their principal assistants.
- (3) Assist commanding officers with preparing prospective nuclear engineering officers for their qualifications.
- (4) Provide oversight of CVN fleet interactive display equipment training operations.
- (5) Coordinate TYCOM nuclear propulsion plant maintenance and repair matters with Staff Maintenance Managers (COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N43). COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 shall ensure that necessary operator training has been provided for upgrades to CVN nuclear propulsion systems.
- (6) Provide CVN nuclear expertise to the deputy primary commander or local area commander, as appropriate, in the unlikely event of a nuclear reactor or radiological accident. COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 shall also participate in CVN radiological emergency planning training and exercises.
- (7) Provide liaison and coordination with Naval Reactors headquarters and field offices on all matters pertaining to naval nuclear propulsion. This includes all issues associated with reactor safety, construction, operation, administration, maintenance, readiness, manning, and training.

- (8) Coordinate fleet feedback for design changes to existing propulsion plants, and provide input to future CVN propulsion plants as well as current and future nuclear training pipelines.
- (9) Provide formal training to prospective principal assistants, nuclear-trained surface warfare officers requiring refresher training, and prospective assistant reactor officers as needed, in the maintenance and operation of CVN propulsion plants using the Advanced Reactor Plant Management Course.
- (10) Provide liaison and coordination with Naval Reactors headquarters, field offices, Commander Naval Sea Systems Command, and Commander, Naval Air Systems Command on all matters pertaining to CVN inactivation, which includes all issues associated with reactor safety, operation, maintenance, readiness, manning, and training.
- (11) Man, maintain, and deploy mobile training teams and maintenance training groups to accomplish the requirements in subparagraphs 3a(1) through 3a(10).
- b. As the principal agents for TYCOM nuclear propulsion related matters, the COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 officers have direct reporting authority to COMNAVAIRPAC and COMNAVAIRLANT.
- 5. Manning. To ensure the viability of the COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 organization, Commander, Navy Personnel Command, will fill these billets with senior nuclear-designated line officers and enlisted personnel having a range of relevant operational and repair backgrounds in addition to technical expertise in the areas under their cognizance. Department of Defense civilians, engineering duty officers and limited duty officers with nuclear repair and operations experience may also be assigned to COMNAVAIRPAC/COMNAVAIRLANT N9 billets, as needed.

6. <u>Records Management</u>. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

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