



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
2000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 1650.28
N09F
20 Dec 04

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.28

From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: All Ships and Stations

Subj: CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AVIATION-RELATED SAFETY AWARDS

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3750.6R

Encl: (1) CNO Aviation Safety Award
(2) Admiral Flatley Memorial Award
(3) Naval Aviation Readiness Through Safety Award
(4) Admiral James S. Russell Naval Aviation Flight Safety Award
(5) Grampaw Pettibone Award

1. **Purpose.** To issue policy and procedures for selecting the annual winners of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Awards listed in enclosures (1) through (5). This is a new instruction and contains the aviation-related safety awards formerly contained in OPNAVINST 1650.24B.

2. **General**

a. Awards will be presented at a ceremony offering maximum publicity.

b. Award inputs should be limited to information relevant to the award and therefore should be kept to a minimum.

3. **Award Period.** These awards are based on calendar year (1 January to 31 December).

4. **Annual Aviation Safety Awards.** The CNO Aviation Safety Award can be awarded to any Navy and Marine Corps Aviation units operating under the Aircraft Controlling Custodians listed in reference (a), except the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC). The Admiral Flatley Memorial Award is awarded to one CV/CVN and associated CVW and to one LHA/LHD and associated MEU. The Naval Aviation Readiness Through Safety Award and Admiral James S. Russell Naval Aviation Flight Safety Award are awarded to an Aircraft Controlling Custodian listed in reference (a), except

the Commandant of the Marine Corps. The Grampaw Pettibone Award is awarded to one individual and to any Navy or Marine Corps Aviation unit. Safety awards are given to recognize operational excellence, exemplary safety contributions and to further the Naval Aviation Safety Program. The awards serve to recognize economy of operations through safety. In addition to an outstanding safety record, commands and ships selected must have aggressive aviation safety programs that contribute new ideas in mishap prevention for the general benefit of Naval Aviation. Professional reporting is essential to the success of the Naval Aviation Safety Program, consequently safety awards shall be granted partly as a result of comprehensive and reputable reporting. Consideration for CNO safety awards requires meeting the highest standards of aviation safety. The failure of competing units within a group to meet these standards may result in no award being presented.

5. **Cognizance**. The CNO Assistant for Safety Matters (N09F) (Commander Naval Safety Center) has cognizance and awarding authority for awards in enclosures (1) through (5).

6. **Reports**. The reporting requirements contained in this instruction are exempt from reports control by SECNAVINST 5214.2B.



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CNO AVIATION SAFETY AWARD

1. CNO Aviation Safety Award will be awarded to several Navy and Marine Corps aviation units. Each winner will receive an engraved plaque for permanent custody and a citation.

2. Navy and Marine Corps aviation units which come under the control of all Aircraft Controlling Custodians listed in reference (a), except CMC, are eligible to receive the Naval Aviation Safety Award.

3. Selection of winners will be based on but not limited to the following considerations:

- a. Class A and B aircraft flight, flight-related mishap rates
- b. Class A and B aircraft ground mishaps
- c. Flight exposure (day/night)
- d. Currency of safety survey
- e. Quality of mishap reports
- f. Days and number of aircraft embarked aboard ship (if appropriate)
- g. Days and number of aircraft deployed away from home base (if applicable)
- h. Contributions to the Naval Aviation Safety Program such as timely reporting of hazards with recommendations for corrective action; suggestions and recommendations for improvement or changes in personal survival equipment, aircraft equipment, ground support equipment, facilities, and maintenance practices; submission of safety articles for publication; currency of safety surveys or culture workshops; or any other matter considered appropriate by the Aircraft Controlling Custodian.
- i. Overall appraisal by the Aircraft Controlling Custodian.

4. Action.

a. Marine Air Wings/Functional Wings/Training Wings/Naval Air Reserve Wings should submit nominations as directed by their Aircraft Controlling Custodian.

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b. Controlling Custodians shall submit nominations to the Commander, Naval Safety Center by 1 March for the preceding calendar year.

c. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will procure and provide plaques and appropriate citations.

d. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will mail plaques and citations to the appropriate Controlling Custodian for presentation to the winning units.

ADMIRAL FLATLEY MEMORIAL AWARD

1. The sponsor of the Admiral Flatley Memorial Award is Boeing Aircraft Company. A total of four presentation plaques and citations will be awarded to one CV/CVN and associated CVW and one LHA/LHD and associated MEU. The winning ships will have the temporary custody of the Admiral Flatley memorial 33" X 24" bronze plaque for 1 year following the award period.

2. All CVs/CVNs, LHDs, and LHAs will be eligible for the Admiral Flatley Memorial Award. A ship whose administrative jurisdiction changed during the award year from one type commander to another will come under the nominating responsibility of the type commander under whom it accumulated a recognizable majority of its flight activity.

3. Selection of winner will be based on, but not limited to, the following:

a. Mishap history

(1) Class A and B mishaps experienced by ship and air wing or MAGTF while embarked. Includes aviation, afloat, personnel injury or death (PID) and material property damage (MPD).

(2) Class A's will have double the weight of B's.

b. Exposure

(1) Number of day's ship was deployed

(2) Embarked flight exposure

(a) Fixed wing flight hours (day/night)

(b) Helicopter flight hours (day/night)

(c) Fixed wing shipboard landings (day/night)

(d) Helicopter shipboard landings (day/night)

c. Type commander assessment of ship's safety program. This section may include grades received on inspections, currency of safety surveys, contributions to safety such as recommendations for improvement to equipment and operating procedures and other safety performance matters considered appropriate.

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The three areas, mishap history, exposure, and type commander assessment will have equal weight in the determination of the winner.

4. Action.

a. Ships, CVWs and MEUs are requested to submit contributions as directed by type commanders.

b. Type commanders are requested to submit the nominations of all CV/CVNs and CVWs or LHA/LHDs and MEUs to COMNAVSAFECEN by 15 March for the preceding calendar year.

c. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will convene a board and select the winners and runners-up for the Admiral Flatley Memorial Awards and release the names as soon as practicable.

d. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will procure and provide engraved replicas of the Admiral Flatley Memorial Award plaque and appropriate citations.

e. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will mail plaques and citations to the appropriate type commander for presentation to the winning ships.

NAVAL AVIATION READINESS THROUGH SAFETY AWARD

1. This award is presented to the Aircraft Controlling Custodian that has contributed the most toward readiness and economy of operations through safety. The command selected must have an outstanding safety record and an aggressive Aviation Safety Program. The award consists of a 36-inch trophy on permanent display at the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola, Florida. The winner's name will be inscribed on this trophy. In addition, the winner will receive a trophy for permanent custody.
2. The Controlling Custodians listed in reference (a), except CMC, are eligible to receive the Naval Aviation Readiness Through Safety Award.
3. Selection of the winner will be based on, but not limited to, the following considerations:
 - a. Class A and B aircraft flight, flight-related and aviation ground mishap rates.
 - b. Flight exposure (day/night).
 - c. Improving safety trend when compared to previous 3 years.
 - d. The command's Naval Aviation Safety Program.
4. Action.
 - a. Commander, Naval Safety Center will develop data base comparisons of all Controlling Custodians and select a winner.
 - b. Commander, Naval Safety Center will procure and provide an engraved trophy for the winner to keep in permanent custody.
 - c. Commander, Naval Safety Center will announce the winner by message as soon as practicable after the choice has been made. The Chief of Information will coordinate a national press release.

ADMIRAL JAMES S. RUSSELL NAVAL AVIATION FLIGHT SAFETY AWARD

1. The sponsor of this award is the Daedalian Foundation, PO Box 249, Randolph Air Force Base, TX 78148-0249.
2. The Aircraft Controlling Custodians listed in reference (a) are eligible to receive the Admiral James S. Russell Flight Safety Award.
3. The winner of the Naval Aviation Readiness Through Safety Award is the automatic winner of the Admiral James S. Russell Award.
4. Action
 - a. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will announce the winner as soon as practicable after the selection has been made.
 - b. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will provide the Daedalian Foundation with the name of the winner of the award.
 - c. The winner of the Admiral James S. Russell Award will provide the Daedalian Foundation with information that will assist them in preparing the citation. The citation and the award will be presented to the winner at a place and time to be announced by the Foundation.

GRAMPAW PETTIBONE AWARD

1. This award commemorates the work of the late Captain Seth Warner, USN, originator of Grampaw Pettibone, and the late Mr. Robert Osborn, illustrator of Grampaw Pettibone. The Commander, Naval Safety Center shall appoint an awards committee and present the award annually to: (1) an individual and (2) an organization, which has contributed most toward aviation safety awareness through publications. The awards committee may also recommend runners-up. Articles, publications, and posters dealing with aviation safety in naval publications may be considered. The award consists of a large trophy on permanent display at the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, Florida. The winner's name/organization will be inscribed on this trophy. The winners will also receive a citation on a plaque.

2. Selection of the two winners will be based on, but not limited to, the following considerations:

- a. Originality of thought or design.
- b. Diversity of appeal and degree of exposure and/or influence.
- c. Overall impact on aviation safety.

3. Action.

a. Type Commanders and Naval Aviation News magazine are invited to forward nominations of up to two author(s)/artist(s) and two units/organizations by 15 March for the previous calendar year to The Commander, Naval Safety Center.

b. The Commander, Naval Safety Center will select the winners and runners-up for the "Grampaw Pettibone" award and release the names as soon as practicable.

c. Commander, Naval Safety Center will procure and provide plaques and citations for the winners to keep in permanent custody.