



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
OPNAVINST 13260.1B  
N88  
15 FEB 2011

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 13260.1B

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: AIR READINESS/EFFECTIVENESS MEASURING PROGRAM

1. Purpose. To revise procedures to manage and conduct the Air Readiness/Effectiveness Measuring (AIREM) Program. This instruction has been substantially revised and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 13260.1A.

3. Objective. The overall objective of the AIREM Program is to provide objective assessments of air anti-submarine warfare (ASW) systems and tactics, enabling platforms to effectively counter the current submarine threat in support of strategic guidance (A Cooperative Strategy for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Seapower, the Navy Strategic Plan, the Vision for Anti-Submarine Warfare Superiority, Global ASW Concept of Operations, et al.). This is accomplished through the following program goals:

a. Satisfy Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and fleet commanders' requirements for high quality data and analyses to document the tactical performance and mission effectiveness of air ASW systems.

b. Incorporate research and analysis into the Anti-Submarine Warfare Improvement Program (ASWIP) objectives. Provide input to the ASWIP Executive Working Group on priority issues for development of the ASW Fleet Collaborative Team integrated prioritized capability list.

c. Provide the mechanism for the identification, documentation, and tracking of deficiencies in current air ASW systems, sensors, and tactics. Recommend corrective actions and prioritization of weapon system improvement requirements. Conduct validation of tactics, techniques and procedures.

d. Provide a source of data to validate parameters of ASW models, and to support tactical development and evaluation (TAC D&E) and specified research, development, test and evaluation programs.

e. Maintain an AIREM database to provide efficient access to exercise data for purposes of cross-exercise analysis and to support special data requests.

4. Program Concept. AIREM program goals will be accomplished through the planning, execution, reconstruction, and analysis of exercises involving air ASW platforms. AIREM program plans and priorities for the forthcoming year will be established at the annual AIREM Planning Conference held during the May or June time frame of the preceding year.

a. AIREM exercises will support the evaluation of air ASW platforms in the full range of operational scenarios, from blue water to littoral and shallow waters; exercising for far forward area and close-in ASW operations. Evaluation of threats and operational environments of interest to the fleet and the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Maritime Surveillance Aircraft Section (N882B) will support the quantitative assessment of the readiness and effectiveness of air ASW platforms and sensors. Data collection during AIREM exercises will support both fleet requirements for the measurement of air ASW platform readiness and effectiveness, as well as special data requirements of the systems commands, naval laboratories, Office of Naval Intelligence, and the Naval Oceanographic Office.

b. AIREM exercises will be prioritized to provide opportunities for the collection of data in the operational scenarios which best mirror the current maritime strategy.

c. Utilizing fleet aircraft and aircrews, AIREM will conduct structured exercises in geographic areas of vital interest and on instrumented ranges. The collected data will be used in the assessment of air ASW platform effectiveness against submarine threats to national interests. Free-play exercises will be used in assessing detect to engage effectiveness and the adequacy of tactics in light of the threat and operational environment. Structured exercises will evaluate specific aspects of air ASW platforms, systems, and sensor capabilities,

and provide baseline measurements. Variables within structured exercises will be restricted by test plans to enhance analysis of the primary exercise objective. Repeatable, controlled exercises are preferred to ensure that data quality and quantity are sufficient for analysis. Specific objectives should be formulated for both structured and free-play exercises, with data collection plans developed and executed to accomplish these objectives.

d. AIREM and TAC D&E programs complement each other. AIREM exercise results may identify areas where revised tactics may be required to realize gains in effectiveness. Likewise, newly developed and or revised tactics may require additional effectiveness measurements.

e. The AIREM and Ship ASW Readiness/Effectiveness Measuring (SHAREM) programs are also complementary. AIREM concentrates on the tactical effectiveness and performance of air ASW assets. SHAREM, while examining total ASW effectiveness and performance for forces involved in an exercise, primarily focuses on surface ship ASW effectiveness. When feasible and mutually beneficial, AIREM and SHAREM will work closely together in exercise planning, execution, reconstruction, and analysis.

f. The AIREM organization shall work closely with Commander, Surface Warfare Development Group (COMSURFWARDEVGRU), Commander, Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE (COMSUBDEVRON 12), Naval Mine and ASW Warfare Command (NMAWC), and other ASW organizations and programs to improve the fleet total ASW readiness posture.

g. AIREM is an additional vehicle for the fleet commanders to monitor operational effectiveness. The primary contribution of the AIREM Program will be through improving system effectiveness, and establishing, evaluating, and or monitoring measures of effectiveness (MOEs) for each man-machine system.

5. AIREM Program Organization. The AIREM organization members and their primary responsibilities are:

a. OPNAV (N882B)

(1) Act as the AIREM program sponsor.

(2) Approve annual and long-range program objectives.

(3) Convene and chair the annual AIREM program review.

(4) Approve an annual program plan, which includes program objectives, budget, schedule of exercises, and the designation of participating commands to conduct each exercise.

(5) Identify funding to support the approved annual program plan.

(6) Designate cognizant agencies for investigation and correction of deficiencies identified by AIREM exercises.

b. Program Executive Officer for Air ASW, Assault and Special Mission Programs (PEO(A)), Program Manager, Air ASW Sensors (PMA-264)

(1) Act as the AIREM program manager.

(2) Review and submit the annual program plan, budget, and exercise schedule to OPNAV (N882B) for approval.

(3) Contract for services and provide analytical and technical support to participating commands.

(4) Provide technical direction as requested by fleet executive agents and administrative agent in executing the AIREM Program.

(5) Distribute funding for the AIREM Program as directed by OPNAV (N882B).

c. Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group  
(COMPATRECONGRU)

(1) Represent Commander, United States Fleet Forces Command; Commander, United States Pacific Fleet; and Commander, Naval Air Forces in all facets of the AIREM Program as AIREM executive agent.

(2) In consultation with OPNAV (N882B) and PEO(A) (PMA-264), provide guidance to the participating wing commands for the development of their annual program plans.

(3) Coordinate and consult as necessary with Commanders, 2nd Fleet, 3rd Fleet, 4th Fleet, 5th Fleet, 6th Fleet, and 7th Fleet in the architecture, planning and conduct of AIREM exercises within the appropriate area of responsibility (AOR).

(4) Approve revision and update of the AIREM 6-year plan on an annual basis.

(5) Establish and maintain memoranda of agreement necessary to support the AIREM Program in the accomplishment of program goals and objectives.

(6) Designate an AIREM administrative agent for assist in the execution of all AIREM program planning, management, coordinating, operations, database management, logistics, and operations.

d. Air Test and Evaluation Squadron ONE (VX-1)

(1) Represent COMPATRECONGRU as administrative agent.

(2) Execute all AIREM activities as directed by the fleet executive agent.

(3) Coordinate and conduct direct liaison with the AIREM participating wing commands and the AIREM program manager to develop AIREM exercise architecture. Close coordination with wing commands will occur year round and during the annual AIREM Planning Conference as well as during all exercise planning conferences to ensure event dates, aircrew, and aircraft requirements and availability of submarine and surface units are agreed upon and achievable. Free-play events for unit level readiness will be accommodated to the maximum extent possible. VX-1 will distribute post-exercise data, findings, and briefing material.

(4) Review and approve publication of exercise results and lessons learned.

(5) Maintain the AIREM database as directed by COMPATRECONGRU.

(6) Act as a central clearing house and coordinator for AIREM initiatives.

(7) Respond to Navy and other research agency requests for AIREM data and special data collection requirements and coordinate requirements with participating wing commands.

(8) Develop test plans, letters of instruction, data collection plans, and other exercise planning materials for AIREM participation in coordinated multi-platform exercises.

(9) Coordinate the assignment and preparation of observers for AIREM participation in coordinated multi-platform exercises and oversee the AIREM data collection effort.

(10) Conduct post-exercise reconstruction and analysis effort. For coordinated multi-platform exercises in which AIREM is a participant, coordinate the timely preparation and promulgation of exercise reports and briefings.

(11) Conduct AIREM conferences, program reviews, exercise planning conferences, fleet scheduling conferences, and post-exercise briefings.

(12) Solicit inputs for annual AIREM plan review.

e. Participating Wing Commands

(1) The ultimate responsibility for AIREM event planning, data collection, analysis, reconstruction, and reporting lies with VX-1. To the maximum extent possible and per the annual AIREM program plan, VX-1 will seek to leverage the capabilities of the participating wing command(s) and the associated tactical operations centers (TOCs) and mobile TOC (MTOCs). Wing, TOC, and MTOC assistance will be especially critical in the execution of platform-unique programs which require scheduling of required services, conduct of exercises, data collection and analysis, and the preparation and distribution of exercise reports.

(2) Coordinate with COMPATRECONGRU, VX-1, and AOR commanders in the architecture, planning, and conduct of AIREM exercises.

6. AIREM Planning Process

a. AIREM program plans and priorities for the forthcoming year will be established at the annual AIREM Planning Conference held during the May or June time frame of the preceding year. VX-1, on behalf of the executive agent, will liaison with OPNAV (N882B); the AIREM program manager; fleet and type commanders; COMPATRECONGRU; the participating wing commands; COMSURFWARDEVGRU; NMAWC; COMSUBDEVRON 12; systems commands; naval laboratories; Office of Naval Intelligence; Commander, Naval Meteorological and Oceanographic Command; and the Naval Oceanographic Office for inputs with respect to AIREM exercise objectives, priorities, and schedule for the forthcoming year. To the maximum extent possible, these inputs should include projected exercise dates, location, scenario, objectives, and participants.

b. On behalf of OPNAV (N882B), VX-1 will chair the annual AIREM Planning Conference, which will be attended by representatives of the AIREM program manager, executive agent, administrative agent, participating wing commands, COMSURFWARDEVGRU, NMAWC, COMSUBDEVRON 12, interested naval laboratories, Office of Naval Intelligence, and the Naval Oceanographic Office. Topics covered during the conference should include:

(1) A review and update of the AIREM program mission statements and objectives.

(2) A summary of the previous year's AIREM Program and a discussion of issues that may pertain to program execution.

(3) A review of the upcoming fiscal year's AIREM program budget and current year budget execution issues.

(4) Present issues and concerns with respect to the direction of the AIREM Program.

(5) Agreement on AIREM program budget requirements for the forthcoming year.

(6) A proposal of exercise objectives and schedule for the forthcoming year.

c. Within 1 month after the AIREM Planning Conference, the AIREM program manager will prepare the proposed AIREM 6-Year Plan for submission to CNO, via the fleet executive agent for CNO approval. Following CNO approval, the plan will be forwarded to the AIREM program manager.

## 7. AIREM 6-Year Plan

a. The AIREM 6-Year Plan will be issued to the members of the AIREM program organization and will constitute the authority for AIREM activity in the forthcoming year.

b. The components of the AIREM 6-Year Plan are:

(1) Background and review of the AIREM Program.

(2) Program objectives and priorities for the forthcoming year.

(3) The AIREM program exercise plan and schedule for the forthcoming year.

(4) Tasks to be accomplished during the 6-Year Plan and areas of particular concern.

(5) AIREM schedule of reports.

(6) Budget requirements for contract analyst support and material requirements such as pre-planned automatic data Processing hardware and software required for exercise planning and analytical reconstruction.

## 8. Exercise Planning and Coordination

a. AIREM is committed to the assessment of air ASW readiness and effectiveness in coordinated, multi-platform air, surface, and subsurface ASW operations. AIREM will be a participant in exercises that afford opportunities to observe air ASW assets operating as members of a multi-faceted ASW operation. These exercises may not only involve multiple platforms and commands, but may require integration of AIREM objectives and requirements among conflicting requirements of



other programs and or fleet requirements. Accordingly, a two-tier organizational and procedural structure is provided for exercise planning and coordination:

b. The fleet executive agent, utilizing the designated administrative agent for AIREM, will designate a lead planner or analyst responsible for coordinating the accomplishment of all tasks required for AIREM participation in exercises in which a participating wing command is not the officer scheduling the exercise (OSE) or the officer conducting the exercise. They will be responsible for the coordination of all AIREM planning and participation in SHAREM and bi-national exercises.

9. AIREM Program Products. The AIREM Program will collect data on the readiness and tactical effectiveness of air ASW platforms, systems, sensors, weapons, and tactics. Analysis of these data will be presented in terms of MOEs approved by CNO and the AIREM program manager. Particular attention will be paid to results which indicate design deficiencies or the need for system performance improvements. The output of the AIREM Program will be as follows:

a. Quick-look Message and Report. To be developed during the post-exercise "Hot Wash-up" debrief and to be released within 10 working days of AIREM exercise completion, by the administrative agent (VX-1). The administrative agent will coordinate issuance of this report with the appropriate command for all exercises in which the participating wing command is not the OSE. These will be preliminary analysis results based on unrectified Global Positioning System tracks and shall be so caveated. The message shall be addressed to all exercise participants, planning group members, and the Air ASW Community of Interest. Preliminary analysis can also leverage the ASW Tactical Assessment System.

b. Exercise Brief. Within 30 days of exercise completion, the administrative agent will prepare a summary briefing that will incorporate and summarize findings contained in the Quick-look Message and Report and any additional analyses for presentation, as appropriate. The briefing will be made available to the CNO, the fleet commanders and type commanders, and exercise participants as desired. For briefings summarizing

AIREM participation in SHAREM exercises, VX-1 will coordinate the preparation and presentation of this briefing with COMSURFWARDEVGRU.

c. AIREM Deficiency Identification and Tracking System. The administrative agent will generate and distribute a quarterly report that summarizes the status of investigation and correction of AIREM identified system, sensor, and tactics deficiencies.

d. Cross-Exercise Analysis Report. As designated and tasked in the annual AIREM program plan, periodic analysis will be accomplished on fundamental AIREM objectives and other selected topics to identify trends. The administrative agent will solicit topics for analysis prior to the annual AIREM Planning Conference and, in consultation with the participating wing commands and the AIREM program manager, prioritize topics for inclusion in the annual AIREM program plan.

e. Tactical Memorandums and Tactical Notes. Cross-exercise analyses which indentify an area of tactical interest that requires further analysis, a deficiency in extant tactical doctrine or a need for new or improved tactical doctrine shall be pursued as appropriate. Development of new or improved tactical doctrine shall be coordinated with all concurrent ASW TAC D&E efforts within the AIR ASW Community of Interest.

10. Action. CNO hereby delegates the development of detailed procedures required for the implementation of this instruction to the fleet commanders and their executive agent.

11. Reports Control. The reporting requirements contained in this instruction are exempt from reports control per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5214.1 of December 2005.



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