



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 3130.7B
N98
20 AUG 2012

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3130.7B

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: NAVAL AVIATION PERSONNEL RECOVERY PROGRAM

Ref: (a) Joint Pub 3-50, Personnel Recovery, 5 January 2007
(b) NTTP 3-03.4 (NOTAL)
(c) OPNAVINST 3500.37C
(d) COMNAVAIRFORINST 3502.1C (NOTAL)
(e) COMNAVAIRFORINST 3500.8 (NOTAL)

Encl: (1) Personnel Recovery Conference Procedures

1. Purpose. To describe naval personnel recovery (PR) policies, guidelines, and responsibilities.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3130.7A.

3. Background. PR is a required operational capability of naval aviation assets. Past experiences exhibit the significant obstacles inherent to any PR operation. Whether it is to execute a non-hostile, non-combatant evacuation or a full medium-threat combat search and rescue, maximum operational effectiveness is only achieved by standardizing PR training, tactics and procedures. Successful PR operations effectively integrate the capabilities of all air, ground, special warfare, surface, and submarine units.

4. Scope. This instruction applies to all aviation units and aviation activities capable of conducting or coordinating PR operations. It is also applicable to units and activities capable of supporting such operations, including naval special warfare forces.

5. General

a. Reference (a) prescribes doctrine for the planning and conduct of joint PR operations. Reference (b) describes naval strike warfare PR operations. PR procedures for specific

aviation platforms (e.g., MH-60S, HH-60H, FA-18, E-2D) are described in their respective Navy tactics, techniques and procedures (NTTP) publications.

b. Carrier air wing (CVW) commanders are expected to execute low to medium threat PR using all aspects of carrier strike group (CSG) capabilities. This requires coordination of air-to-air, air-to-ground, command and control, suppression of enemy air defenses, and indications and warning assets.

c. Both the MH-60S block III and HH-60H helicopters were specifically designed to conduct PR and special operations forces (SOF) missions in a medium threat environment. PR is assigned as a primary mission area for all helicopter sea combat (HSC) and helicopter antisubmarine squadrons (HS). HSC and HS squadrons specifically train to the PR mission with their CVW throughout the Fleet Readiness Training Plan, and are manned and equipped to deploy a two aircraft detachment ashore in support of CVW or theater PR missions with no impact to aircraft carrier operations. Qualified expeditionary HSC detachments deployed aboard landing helicopter assault and landing helicopter dock class ships provide a potential for increased PR capability due to proximity to the littoral environment. When present in theater, reserve HSC SOF support squadrons (HSC 84/85) provide increased PR capability, as their co-location and close integration with theater SOF may permit PR operations into a high threat environment.

6. Definitions

a. PR Sponsor. The Navy PR program is sponsored by the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV (N98)). OPNAV (N98), in conjunction with the Navy Warfare Development Command (NAVWARDEVCOM), shall coordinate Navy representation at Joint PR Process Action Team meetings as required. Representatives shall be designated from those commands with the greatest expertise in subject matter under consideration (e.g., Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center (NAVSTKAIRWARCEN); Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Atlantic (HELSEACOMBATWINGLANT); Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Pacific (HELSEACOMBATWINGPAC); and Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command (COMNAVSPECWARCOM)).

(1) A Navy PR conference may be convened as required by OPNAV (N98) to resolve issues within the naval PR community.

(2) The primary objective is to review PR instructions, training, procedures, and equipment to keep pace with requirements, and align NTTPs and naval warfare publications with joint doctrine. The primary means for conference convening is via video telephone conferencing. Additional PR conference procedures are outlined in enclosure (1).

b. Lead Agent for PR. Individual services, combatant commands, or Joint Staff directorates may be assigned as lead agents for developing and maintaining joint doctrine, joint tactics, techniques, and procedures (JTTP) publications, or joint administrative publications. The lead agent is responsible for developing, coordinating, reviewing and maintaining an assigned doctrine, JTTP, or joint administrative publication (Joint Publication 1-02, Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms, 8 November 2010). As the policy coordinator for the Navy, the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans, and Strategy (CNO (N3/N5)) is designated as the lead agent for reference (a), per Joint Publication 1-01, Joint Publication System Joint Doctrine and Joint Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures Development Program, 30 July 1992. Development and coordination functions are executed through the NAVWARDEVCOM.

c. Coordinating Review Authority (CRA). An agency appointed by a service or combatant command to coordinate with and assist the primary review authority (PRA) in doctrine development, evaluation, and maintenance efforts. Each service or combatant command must assign a CRA. If so authorized by the appointing service or combatant command, CRA comments provided to the designated primary review authorities should represent the position of the appointing service or combatant command with regard to the publication under development (Joint Publication 1-02). The NAVWARDEVCOM has been designated the Navy's CRA for all joint publications.

d. PRA. The organization assigned by the lead agent to perform the action and coordination necessary to develop and maintain the assigned joint publication under cognizance of the

lead agent (Joint Publication 1-02). NAVSTKAIRWARCEN is assigned as the Navy PRA for references (a) and (b), and for naval aircraft NTTPs addressing PR operations.

e. Technical Review Authority (TRA). The organization tasked to provide specialized technical or administrative expertise to the PRA or CRA for joint publications (Joint Publication 1-02). COMNAVSPECWARCOM; Commander, HELSEACOMBATWINGLANT (COMHELSEACOMBATWINGLANT) and Commander, HELSEACOMBATWINGPAC (COMHELSEACOMBATWINGPAC); Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific (COMSTRKFIGHTWINGPAC) and Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic (COMSTRKFIGHTWINGLANT); and Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics Wing (COMACCLOGWING) are designated as TRAs for reference (a) and their respective NTTPs.

7. Responsibilities

a. NAVSTKAIRWARCEN shall:

(1) Act as Navy PRA for reference (a) and for NTTPs addressing PR. As Navy PRA for reference (a), coordinate with NAVWARDEVCOM regarding joint actions or joint publication change proposals for incorporation in reference (a).

(2) Evaluate CVW PR tactics, techniques, and procedures during pre-deployment training and evaluation.

(3) Review validated PR lessons learned reported within the Navy Lessons Learned Information System (NLLIS) per reference (c) or Joint Lessons Learned Information System (JLLIS) (via <https://www.jllis.smil.mil>) (NOTAL). Forward relevant lessons learned to appropriate commands within the PR community for action as required. Publish bulletins (e.g., via NAVSTKAIRWARCEN Journal) as necessary to highlight PR lessons learned and their application to the naval PR community.

(4) Evaluate integrated PR tactics and applicable PR related projects and disseminate results to PR program principals listed in enclosure (1), paragraph 2.

(5) Evaluate PR survival equipment as requested and disseminate results to PR program principals.

(6) Develop and manage a rescue mission commander syllabus.

(7) Coordinate with COMNAVSPECWARCOM; Commander, Strike Force Training Atlantic (COMSTKFORTRALANT) and Commander, Strike Force Training Pacific (COMSTKFORTRAPAC); COMHELSEACOMBATWINGLANT and COMHELSEACOMBATWINGPAC; COMSTRKFIGHTWINGLANT and COMSTRKFIGHTWINGPAC; and COMACCLOGWING for standardization of tactics; review post advanced readiness program PR lessons learned and provide results of CVW PR event evaluations following NAVSTKAIRWARCEN exercises.

b. COMSTKFORTRALANT and COMSTKFORTRAPAC shall evaluate CSG PR mission performance during composite training unit exercises and provide results of PR evaluations to COMHELSEACOMBATWINGLANT and COMHELSEACOMBATWINGPAC, COMSTRKFIGHTWINGLANT and COMSTRKFIGHTWINGPAC, and COMACCLOGWING for standardization of tactics.

c. CVW commanders shall:

(1) Integrate PR as a principle component in all naval strike warfare plans.

(2) Establish and maintain a rescue coordination team (RCT).

(3) Designate Rescue Mission Commanders at the completion of the NAVSTKAIRWARCEN managed syllabus.

(4) Exercise RCT during pre-deployment training (e.g., Air Wing Fallon, composite training unit exercises, and joint task force exercise).

(5) Make recommendations and coordinate requests with CSG commander for supplemental PR detachments (e.g., HSC and SOF) to augment strike group PR force structure.

(6) Submit air wing PR lessons learned to the NLLIS database.

d. COMHELSEACOMBATWINGLANT and COMHELSEACOMBATWINGPAC shall:

(1) Develop and execute a tactical training and qualification program to support PR operations for HS and HSC squadrons per references (d) and (e).

(2) Assess HSC and HS squadron PR operations as part of an advanced readiness program, per references (d) and (e).

(3) Submit unit PR lessons learned to the NLLIS database per reference (c).

e. COMACCLOGWING shall:

(1) Develop and execute a tactical training and qualification program to support PR operations per references (d) and (e).

(2) Assess carrier airborne early warning squadron PR operations as part of an advanced readiness program, per reference (e).

(3) Submit unit PR lessons learned to the NLLIS database per reference (c).

f. Operational Test and Evaluation Force shall conduct operational evaluations of PR equipment as required by the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) sponsor.

8. Records Management. 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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PERSONNEL RECOVERY CONFERENCE PROCEDURES

1. General. The effectiveness of the Navy PR program is dependent on a periodic and collective review of PR instructions, equipment, and procedures to ensure they meet current operational requirements. A formal PR conference is the primary means of carrying out this phase of the program. The procedures set forth in this enclosure are intended to ensure maximum benefits are realized from these conferences. Results of PR conferences shall serve as a basis for responsible command actions to revise associated NTPs and JTTPs.

2. Responsibility. OPNAV (N98) shall convene and chair a PR conference at the recommendation of any voting member. The voting membership shall be limited to PR principals which includes OPNAV (N98); COMNAVSPECWARFOR; Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve; Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Commander, NAVSTKAIRWARCEN; COMELSEACOMBATWINGLANT; COMHELSEACOMBATWINGPAC; Commander, COMSTRKFIGHTWINGPAC; Commander, COMSTRKFIGHTWINGLANT; COMACCLOGWING.

3. Conference Location. The PR conference location will be addressed separately in a convening announcement as required but the primary method of conducting is via video telephone conferencing.

4. Convening Announcement

a. When directed, the CNO PR agency, NAVSTKAIRWARCEN, shall originate the convening PR conference announcement via message and include, at a minimum, all the PR conference voting members. It shall include the date and location; requests for names, grades, clearance data, command, and billeting requirements of the attendees; and deadline date for submission of agenda items. The convening announcement should precede the conference convening date by at least 60 days.

b. Voting members, upon receipt of the convening announcement, shall inform units under their command as appropriate. Requests for agenda items should receive the widest possible dissemination throughout the PR community.

c. Voting members attending PR conferences must be qualified and authorized to speak for the command, units and squadrons which they represent in all matters pertaining to PR.

5. Conference Agenda. Agenda items shall be forwarded to NAVSTKAIRWARCEN 30 days prior to the conference convening date.

6. Conduct of a PR Conference. OPNAV (N98) or his or her designated representative shall act as chairman of the conference. The following procedures should be adhered to in conducting the conference:

a. Each voting member shall be limited to one vote. Proxy votes are not authorized. The CNO representative shall make the determination of any voting procedures other than those specified here. Committees may be appointed to consider specific agenda items.

b. A record shall be kept of the agenda items discussed and the resulting decisions. That record shall be distributed to all conference attendees by NAVSTKAIRWARCEN, assigning follow-on action as appropriate.