



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

OPNAVINST 3541.1F
N96
8 FEB 2013

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3541.1F

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: SURFACE SHIP SURVIVABILITY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 9070.1A
(b) NTTP 3-20.21 (U) (NOTAL)
(c) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1990

1. Purpose. To issue policy as it pertains to surface ship survivability training in order to maintain a high level of ship survivability knowledge and skills throughout the fleet.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3541.1E.

3. Discussion. Reference (a) defines survivability as "a measure of both the ship mission critical systems and crew to perform assigned warfare missions, and of the protection provided to the crew to prevent serious injury or death." It further describes recoverability as "a measure of the capability of the ship and crew, after initial damage effects, whatever the cause, to take emergency action to contain and control damage, prevent loss of a damaged ship, minimize personnel casualties, and restore and sustain primary mission capabilities." Specifically, it requires that ships not only combat fires and flooding, but restore the combat system to engage subsequent raids. Intrinsic to this is the restoration of maneuver capability to unmask surviving elements of the combat system as well as meet operational maneuver requirements. Reference (b) emphasizes the systems approach to survivability by integrating all shipboard capabilities to effectively maintain ships' offensive power.

4. Policy. The importance of ship survivability cannot be over emphasized. Survivability at sea, where a ship can be subjected to storm damage as well as battle damage, is an all-hands responsibility. The keystone to effective survivability is preparedness, which requires a high level of command support and training.

a. Per reference (c), each ship's commanding officer is required to maintain a level of damage control and battle proficiency enabling a ship to carry out its assigned mission in any environment.

b. Since shipboard survivability responsibilities are shared by all personnel, a basic level of knowledge is required. Additional specialized training requirements exist for members of the shipboard battle organization.

5. Scope. Survivability training requirements established by this instruction apply to all naval personnel whose duties include shipboard assignment.

6. Objective. By providing definitive requirements, the training community can adequately provide fleet personnel with the skills to combat damage while maintaining mission integrity.

7. Training Requirements

a. Levels of Shipboard Survivability Training Requirements

(1) Level 1 - Basic Ship Survivability and Damage Control Training. To train all officer and enlisted personnel during accession training in basic ship survivability, battle damage, damage control and fire fighting. Training is to include, but not be limited to, threat weapon effects; ship design for survivability; conflagration procedures; hull structure familiarization; prevention and control of fire; flooding and explosive damage; equipment familiarization; chemical, biological and radiological defense (CBR-D) and survival skills; proper use of survivability devices; escape routes; decontamination procedures and active participation in supervised live fire fighting, damage control drills and use of chemical, biological, radiological (CBR) gas confidence chamber. Additionally, all personnel, upon reporting to afloat commands for duty, shall receive instruction in ship survivability and damage control as it applies to the individual command. This training shall include completion of applicable survivability and damage control personnel qualification standards (PQS).

(2) Level II - Advanced Ship Survivability and Damage Control Training. For personnel who, because of their duties,

require additional survivability and damage control training, primarily in the area of fire fighting techniques; flooding containment and control; damage containment; setting fire and flooding boundaries; conflagration control; system employment; equipment operation and maintenance; hull maintenance; CBR-D; emergency procedures and the supervision of preventive measures. Level II training is to include training in fire fighting techniques, emergency procedures, damage control equipment employment, hull and structural integrity maintenance and casualty drills on an individual basis. Damage control petty officer training is included in this level. Enlisted accession training meets the level II requirements for fire fighting and CBR-D. This training shall include the completion of applicable survivability and damage control PQS. Personnel receiving level II training include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Engineering department personnel.
- (b) Flight deck duty personnel.
- (c) Vital combat systems space supervisory personnel.
- (d) Petroleum, oils, lubricant and ordnance personnel.
- (e) Surface warfare and submarine qualified enlisted personnel.
- (f) Division and department damage control petty officers.

(3) Level III - Ship Survivability and Damage Control Team Training. For personnel who, because of their duties, require additional ship survivability and damage control training as members of a team or battle organization repair party. Level III training is to be conducted both ashore and on board ship through formal courses, drills and exercises. These exercises shall include all peacetime emergencies as well as battle damage exercises corresponding to weapon threats in the expected areas of ship deployment. Personnel receiving level III training include, but are not limited to:

(a) Repair party leaders, including combat systems repair.

(b) In-port emergency teams.

(c) Rescue and assistance teams.

(4) Level IV - Ship Survivability Management Training.

For personnel who, because of their battle organization and administrative duties, require additional ship survivability and damage control training primarily in the areas of battle and emergency preparation; battle and emergency decision making; conflagration control; assessment of residual capabilities after battle damage; damage containment priorities; equipment and vital system restoration priority setting in support of maintaining or restoring warfighting capability after damage; vital systems capabilities and reconfiguration decision in support of essential ship mission and damage control capabilities. Level IV training is to be conducted both ashore and on board ship through drills and exercises. Level IV training includes instruction in conflagration; threat weapons effects to the ship for areas of ship deployment and the operation, management, reconfiguration and administration of the battle organization as it impacts ship survivability. This level of training will also include instruction in inspection and battle damage investigation procedures to be employed on shipboard vital systems and in procedures to properly conduct shipboard survivability drills and training. Personnel receiving level IV training include, but are not limited to:

(a) Commanding officer.

(b) Executive officer.

(c) All department heads.

(d) Damage control assistant.

(e) Condition I and III combat systems officers of the watch and combat system readiness officers.

(f) Electrical officer.

(g) Repair party leaders including combat system repair.

(h) Gas free engineer.

b. Frequency of Training

(1) Level I - During the initial training after commissioning of officers and during recruit training for enlisted personnel.

(a) In cases where live fire fighting training is not received during accession training, personnel should receive live fire fighting training within 6 months of shipboard assignment.

(b) Applicable ship survivability and general damage control PQS should be completed within 6 months of each shipboard assignment.

(c) Embarked units, upon reporting to afloat commands, shall receive instruction in ship survivability to enable them to carry out correct initial actions.

(d) Personnel assigned shipboard duty should receive live fire fighting training as specified by the applicable fleet commander.

(2) Level II - enlisted accession and initial officer training meet the level II requirements for live fire fighting and CBR-D. The remaining requirements should be completed within 6 months of reporting onboard a ship.

(3) Level III - As specified by the applicable fleet commander.

(4) Level IV - As specified by the type commander.

8. Responsibilities

a. Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) shall:

(1) Provide training requirements and overall policy guidance for ship survivability training and coordinate efforts for such training.

(2) Provide general and specific operational requirements for new and improved ship survivability equipment and techniques.

b. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education (N1)) shall:

(1) Ensure that personnel who enter the naval service and do not receive recruit or pre-commissioning training acquire required level I training prior to reporting to their first permanent duty station afloat.

(2) Ensure that personnel assigned to overseas homeported units receive appropriate level ship survivability, fire fighting and damage control training en route and prior to reporting to their permanent duty station afloat.

c. Fleet commanders in chief shall:

(1) Provide functional ship survivability training for individuals and teams to meet the needs of the Navy and the requirements set forth in this instruction.

(2) Specify scope and nature of onboard training required and identify training material and equipment needed for its support.

(3) Exercise a continuing review of shipboard survivability proficiency and provide feedback information to CNO, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (COMNAVSEASYSKOM), Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), Chief of Navy Reserve, Naval Safety Center, and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED).

(4) Issue specific formal ship survivability school requirements to attain level II and III training and ensure that minimum survivability requirements are completed by all shipboard personnel.

(5) Designate reserve units that require surface ship survivability skills and training. Additionally, ensure individuals (active or reserve) mobilized, recalled to active duty, or assigned as an individual augmentee to a unit requiring associated training receive that training prior to reporting to the unit.

d. COMNAVSEASYSKOM shall:

(1) Serve as a central source for obtaining operational and technical ship survivability information pertaining to battle damage and survivability, the capability of ships to fight through battle damage, ship survivability incidents, responsibilities, performance and equipment.

(2) Provide training support for new or extensively modified ship survivability equipment, systems and techniques.

(3) Provide to training activities and forces afloat the equipment and analytic support required to meet ship survivability training requirements.

(4) Provide to the training activities, other systems commands, bureaus and warfare sponsors, on a continuing basis, technical information, analytic support and reports for use in ship survivability curricula, course materials and Navy enlisted classification (NEC) reviews.

(5) Provide a continuing review of ship survivability training to ensure technical accuracy and currency.

(6) Initiate and coordinate funding of the development of ship survivability training devices and aids as required.

(7) Serve as the primary technical authority for the design, installation and maintenance of all ship survivability systems, equipment and material furnished under their cognizance.

e. Chief of Navy Reserve shall ensure proper training of selected Reserve Sailors assigned to U.S. Fleet Forces Command designated reserve units that require surface ship survivability skills is completed.

f. BUMED shall:

(1) Provide to the training activities, the Chief of Naval Personnel, and warfare sponsors when requested, a review of survivability training curricula and course materials to ensure adequate instruction in techniques and procedures for care and prevention of personnel casualties.

(2) Provide to the training activities, the Chief of Naval Personnel, and warfare sponsors on a continuing basis technical information and reports in responsible areas for use in survivability curricula, course materials and NEC reviews.

(3) Initiate and provide funds for the development of related training aids in areas of responsibility.

g. NETC shall:

(1) Provide specialized ship survivability training for individuals and teams to meet the needs of the Navy and the requirements set forth in this instruction.

(2) Specify in the Catalog of Navy Training Courses for survivability training, the level requirement satisfied by each survivability training course.

(3) Develop and maintain current PQS for applicable ship survivability battle organization billets and ratings and all other applicable shipboard personnel in order that minimum standards for survivability proficiency knowledge and skill levels can be attained.

(4) Provide for the development of training curricula and other training materials required to support ship survivability training.

9. Action. Addressees will take such action as necessary to carry out the responsibilities assigned in paragraph 8.

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10. Records Management. Records created as a result of the instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.



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