



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

OPNAVINST 3000.15A  
USFF/CNO N3/N5  
10 Nov 2014

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3000.15A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: OPTIMIZED FLEET RESPONSE PLAN

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3000.13D

1. Purpose. To set policy and establish responsibility for the execution of the optimized fleet response plan (OFRP).

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3000.15.

3. Scope. This instruction applies to all active and reserve deployable units of the United States Navy.

4. Background. The 21st century security environment has created a high demand for Navy forces, from individual units to strike groups, requiring a more agile and flexible force to respond to combatant commander (CCDR) requests. While reaffirming the importance of the rotational base of naval forward presence, changes in the global landscape have demonstrated the need for an optimized process to ensure continuous availability of manned, maintained, equipped, and trained Navy forces capable of surging forward on short notice while also maintaining long-term sustainability of the force. The OFRP delivers rotationally deployed forces to fulfill global force management (GFM) commitments, while continuing to provide surge capability. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) sets guidelines for personnel and operations tempo in reference (a). These guidelines balance the CCDRs' forward presence requests with Sailors' quality of life, and support long-term sustainability of the force.

5. Discussion

a. The OFRP is an operational framework with four phases (maintenance, basic, integrated or advanced, and sustainment) designed to optimize the return on training and maintenance investments, maintain Sailor quality of service, and ensure units and forces are certified in defined, progressive levels of

employable and deployable capability. An OFRP cycle is the time from the beginning of a maintenance phase to the beginning of the next maintenance phase. The length of the cycle will be established for each force element to meet designed OFRP goals.

b. The OFRP improves the fleet's readiness generation process by aligning and synchronizing Navy-wide activity and resources across nine lines of effort (LOE) to a stable Master OFRP Production Plan (e.g., 9 years for carrier strike groups (CSG)) that represents the optimum long range schedule. Those LOEs are: fleet response plan length, command and control (C2) alignment, manning and individual training, maintenance and modernization, logistics, Military Sealift Command (MSC) support, inspections, unit and advanced training, and operational and tactical headquarters training. This construct provides a balanced, sustainable, and predictable force generation cycle which will maximize employability in support of the Global Force Management Allocation Plan (GFMAP). This framework establishes a readiness generation cycle that operationally and administratively aligns forces while aligning and stabilizing manning, maintenance and modernization, logistics, inspections and evaluations, and training. OFRP supports Secretary of Defense directed GFMAP presence and surge levels by maximizing employability with available force capacity. It will maintain the capacity to rapidly increase forward presence if world events dictate and additional funding becomes available. OFRP will result in:

- (1) Predictable force generation cycles.
- (2) OFRP cycle length that supports maintenance and training while maximizing employability.
- (3) Consistent chain of command throughout OFRP.
- (4) Right Sailor, right training, right time, in a sea-centric Navy.
- (5) Continue rotational crewing and required manning at the beginning of the basic phase.
- (6) Stable and predictable maintenance plan.

(7) Modernization that supports warfighting integration and interoperability.

(8) Parts, ordnance, and other transportation to support training and operations.

(9) Fully capable and modernized MSC ships available to support fleet combat and peacetime requirements.

(10) Consolidated and streamlined inspections, certifications, assessment, and visits.

(11) Forces trained to a single high-end, near peer standard.

(12) Tactical headquarters organization, capability, and capacity aligned with standardized maritime operations centers.

c. Maintenance processes that support OFRP ensure the material readiness necessary to successfully complete each phase of the OFRP. Modernization processes will ensure unit and group warfighting integration and interoperability. Personnel processes within the OFRP establish proper unit manning levels prior to commencement of the basic phase, and will maintain those levels through the sustainment phase. Logistic processes will ensure required spare parts and ordnance supports training and operations. Training processes within the OFRP provide required levels of training readiness at the appropriate time in the OFRP cycle. In the aggregate, the OFRP provides Navy forces with the capability to respond to the full spectrum of Navy roles and missions, as well as any evolving national defense requirements.

d. The OFRP cycle starts at the beginning of the maintenance phase and ends upon the beginning of the next maintenance phase. A building block approach through each phase assures readiness increases through the cycle and culminates with a level of readiness at the end of the integrated or advanced phase that reflects the capability and capacity to meet deployment certification. The phases are:

(1) Maintenance Phase. The maintenance phase is the beginning of the OFRP cycle. All deployable elements of Navy forces have a maintenance phase. For example, the maintenance

phase for surface combatants includes approximately 24 weeks for the CNO availability plus 4 weeks for a post availability shakedown; however, the maintenance phase can take up to 16 months for an aircraft carrier undergoing a docking planned incremental availability. The maintenance phase is critical to the success of the OFRP since it is the optimal period in which major shipyard or depot-level repairs, upgrades, force reconstitution, and platform modernization occur. In addition to the timely completion of the maintenance package, units and staffs must complete appropriate inspections, certifications, and assist visits and continue to focus on individual and team training, while maintaining a solid foundation of readiness.

(2) Basic Phase. The basic phase focuses on development of unit core capabilities and skills through the completion of basic-level inspections, certifications, assessments and visits and training requirements as well as achieving required levels of personnel, equipment, supply, and ordnance readiness. Units and staffs that have completed the basic phase are ready for more complex integrated or advanced training events, or appropriate tasking as described below.

(a) Units that have completed the basic phase may be tasked with independent operations in support of phase 0 (shaping and deterrence), homeland security, humanitarian assistance (HA) and disaster relief (DR), or other specific, focused operations.

(b) Amphibious ships must be prepared to execute contingency amphibious lift requirements 60 days after the start of the basic phase. This requirement applies only to the assigned ships and crew and does not imply any Marine Corps capability, which the Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) provides. Amphibious ships executing this requirement can only provide lift support and are not capable of conducting the full spectrum of amphibious specialty tasks. These ships are capable of conducting combat and administrative loadout of ground forces in support of emergent requirements. They may support special operations forces, special purpose MAGTFs, adaptive force packages for missions such as defense support to civil authorities or HA and DR support, or provide lift as required.

(3) Integrated Phase. The purpose of integrated phase training is to synthesize individual units and staffs into

aggregated, coordinated strike groups (or other combined-arms forces) in a challenging, multi-dimensional threat, realistic warfare environment.

(a) The integrated phase provides a sufficient block of time to complete required inspections, certifications, assessments, visits, and training, and to achieve the requisite levels of personnel, equipment, supply, training, and ordnance readiness. This phase provides an opportunity for decision makers and watch standers to build on individual and unit skills and conduct multi-unit in port and at-sea training under high-end, near peer threat conditions. The integrated phase may be adapted in order to provide targeted training to support emergent CCDR requirements.

(b) Upon completion of the integrated phase, strike groups and other combined arms forces will be certified to deploy. They must demonstrate the ability to operate in joint and coalition operations and proficiency in leading required missions and capabilities under threat realistic conditions. These missions and capabilities, at a minimum, include proficiency in intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, C2, air operations, maritime operations, information operations, power projection, ballistic missile defense, peacetime presence, amphibious operations, special operations forces support, combat search and rescue, mine warfare, sustainment and stability operations, and antiterrorism and force protection. During deployment, units and forces maintain proficiency through ongoing training, exercises, and normal operations as directed by higher authority.

(4) Advanced Phase. The advanced phase applies to independent deploying Navy forces that are not part of a deploying group (i.e., CSG, expeditionary strike group, or amphibious ready group). The advanced phase provides a sufficient block of time to complete required inspections, certifications, assist visits, and training and achieve requisite levels of personnel, equipment, supply, training, and ordnance readiness. The goal of the advanced phase is to conduct high-end, near peer advanced core and mission specific training to meet CCDR or naval component commander mission requirements (GFM, request for forces, or request for capabilities). This includes attainment of acceptable proficiency in all required mission areas and may include core

integration capabilities, completion of mission-specific training for identified mission sets, and strike group level integrated training as required. If required to aggregate into a group, additional training will include, as a minimum, integrated training in a composite training unit exercise or equivalent event. Upon completion of the advanced phase, forces will be certified to deploy.

(5) Sustainment Phase. The sustainment phase begins upon completion of the integrated or advanced phase, continues throughout the post-deployment period, and ends with the commencement of the next maintenance phase. Deployments may be conducted within the sustainment phase. Sustainment consists of a variety of evolutions designed to sustain and enhance warfighting readiness as a group, multi-unit or unit. In addition to unit level repetitive training, sustainment phase training events may exercise aggregated units and staffs in complex, multi-mission planning and execution as well as operations in a joint and coalition environment. Sustainment training, in port and at-sea, allows forces to demonstrate proficiency in operating as part of a joint and coalition combined force and ensures that proficiency is maintained in all Navy mission-essential tasks in order to maintain deployable readiness. The extent of sustainment phase evolutions will vary depending on the unit's length of time in a surge-able status, as well as the anticipated tasking and available funding. Deployments in support of CDR GFM requirements may occur within the sustainment phase after a re-assessment of a group's or unit's readiness to deploy.

6. Policy. The OFRP construct will be executed for all strike groups and other deployable Navy groups and units.

7. Responsibilities

a. CNO

(1) Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Operations, Plans and Strategy) (CNO (N3/N5)) is the point of contact for OFRP policy oversight and development. CNO (N3/N5) shall coordinate alignment of GFM policy and OFRP schedules and is the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) personnel and operating tempo program coordinator.

(2) Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics) (CNO (N4)) assesses readiness requirements that support OFRP execution and shall report to CNO on the adequacy of the readiness funding supporting OFRP objectives as part of the post-sponsor program proposal requirements assessment and integrated readiness assessment processes. CNO (N4) shall coordinate within OPNAV, and with Commander, United States Fleet Forces (COMUSFLTFORCOM) and Commander, United States Pacific Fleet (COMUSPACFLT) to ensure visibility of OFRP requirements and resourcing.

(3) OPNAV resource sponsors [Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education) (CNO (N1)); Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Information Dominance) (CNO (N2/N6)); CNO (N4); and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Warfare Systems) (CNO (N9))] shall program for effective execution of OFRP and identify any shortfalls within available funding in their sponsor program proposal.

b. Systems Commands

(1) Lead the development and management of maintenance and modernization programs.

(2) Oversee maintenance and modernization processes, procedures, and products to ensure the OFRP is fully supported and executed.

(3) Analyze maintenance and modernization feedback to determine process improvements.

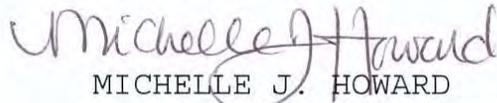
c. COMUSFLTFORCOM and COMUSPACFLT

(1) Implement and execute the OFRP for all rotational and surge groups and units under COMUSFLTFORCOM and COMUSPACFLT administrative control. Develop performance measures for evaluating OFRP. Define and collect metrics that measure the effectiveness of the OFRP in achieving required readiness.

(2) Direct the development and execution efforts of numbered fleet commanders and type commanders in the training and certification requirements necessary to implement, execute, and expand application of the OFRP. Consolidate lessons learned from OFRP implementation and execution.

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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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle J. Howard". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

MICHELLE J. HOWARD  
Vice Chief of Naval Operations

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