



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
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OPNAVINST 4855.1A<sup>IN REPLY REFER TO</sup>  
N4  
01 Jun 2010

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 4855.1A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NAVY NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS STOCKPILE EVALUATION AND RELIABILITY ASSESSMENT

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 8120.1  
(b) Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of  
Defense and Department of Energy for Nuclear Weapons  
Subsystem Test Plan (NWSSTP) Program of 8 Aug 83  
(NOTAL)  
(c) Special Weapons Ordnance Publication (SWOP) 40-2,  
General Information on the Navy Nuclear Weapons  
Stockpile Evaluation and Reliability Assessment  
(SEARA) Program of 2 Mar 2009 (NOTAL)

1. Purpose

a. To define the Department of the Navy (DON) policy regarding responsibilities, authorities, and accountability for the Navy Nuclear Weapons (NW) Stockpile Evaluation and Reliability Assessment (SEARA) Program for the Tomahawk Land Attack Missile-Nuclear (TLAM-N) and the Nuclear Tomahawk Weapons System (NTWS).

b. To delineate the actions required when testing indicates deficiencies that affect or could affect stockpile reliability.

c. To support reference (a) and implement references (b) through (c).

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST F4855.1.

3. Scope. This instruction applies to all U.S. Navy commands, activities, units, and forces that have roles and responsibilities supporting the Navy NW SEARA Program for the TLAM-N and the NTWS. All entities will issue formal direction to implement guidance provided in this instruction.

4. Summary of Changes. This instruction was updated to incorporate the recent changes of reference (a).

5. Background

a. The DON/Department of Energy (DOE) initiated NW testing and evaluation in May 1961 by exercising the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the DON and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). In November 1964, the DON and AEC established the Joint NW Quality Assurance Service Test (QAST) Flight Test Program for the tactical weapons systems. In February 1968, the DON and the AEC established the NW Stockpile Reliability Assessment Program (RAP). RAP provides the sharing of test data, analysis, and reporting regarding the quality and reliability of the NW stockpile.

b. The SEARA Program, formerly the RAP, provides the Navy with current and comprehensive information on the quality, reliability, and safety of the TLAM-N, the W80 Mod 0 (W80-0) warhead and the NTWS. The SEARA Program, using laboratory and flight test programs, recommends actions to ensure reliability and safety of these same systems.

6. Policy

a. The SEARA Program will provide current and comprehensive information on the reliability and safety of the TLAM-N and the NTWS. The information will expedite implementation and completion of corrective actions when deficiencies are identified.

b. Fleet commanders and their subordinates, as well as the Program Executive Officer, Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons (PEO(U&W)) shall meet the requirements of the nuclear weapons subsystem test plan (NWSSTP) process as defined in reference (b), which makes operational the SEARA Program as defined in reference (c).

7. Objectives. The SEARA Program will:

a. Provide current NW and NW system reliability and safety information.

b. Predict weapons system performance and reliability from design, storage, handling, and maintenance, as well as evaluation of data analysis from laboratory and flight testing.

c. Ensure compatibility between the weapon and weapon system delivery hardware, software, documentation, and procedures.

d. Provide operational and test data to help the fleet evaluate and refine its training programs, weapon delivery tactics, and weapon delivery system.

e. Examine, exercise, and refine command and control systems and safety and security devices designed into NW and NW systems.

#### 8. Responsibilities

a. Director, Navy Staff (DNS). DNS is responsible for coordinating all the Office of Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) responsibilities for NW activities. DNS shall chair and be supported in this responsibility by the OPNAV Nuclear Weapons Council (ONWC) and the Senior Leadership Oversight Council (SLOC). Specific to the SEARA Program, the ONWC and SLOC shall:

(1) Ensure Navy compliance with established DON and Department of Defense (DoD) NW and NW systems stockpile safety and reliability policy.

(2) Coordinate all OPNAV staff responsibilities for the SEARA Program.

(3) Direct action to resolve SEARA Program policy and oversight issues identified by internal and external Navy inspections, assessments, and reports.

(4) Coordinate with the Deputy Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFLTFORCOM); the Deputy Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet; the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition); and Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment) to strengthen ties between the Navy Secretariat and OPNAV regarding policy/oversight functions as they relate to fleet/NW systems program operations/material support functions.

(5) Coordinate with the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Integration of Capabilities and Resources) (CNO N8) Resources and Requirements Review Board and the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Information Dominance) (CNO N2/N6) Information Technology Management Council to resolve SEARA Program requirements and resource issues.

b. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics) (CNO N4). CNO N4 is the DON echelon 1 supported flag officer (FO) responsible for the TLAM-N SEARA Program. CNO N4 shall:

(1) Promulgate Navy policy regarding the SEARA Program and its use to ensure reliability and safety of TLAM-N and NTWS.

(2) Serve as the DON principal point of contact for organizations external to the Navy for matters concerning the SEARA Program.

(3) Serve as a permanent observer and adviser to the Nuclear Weapons Subsystem Test Plan Group (NWSSTPG).

(4) Review the NWSSTP, reliability and stockpile quality reports, and the DOE National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) reports.

(5) Disseminate information regarding the SEARA Program to all stakeholders including, but not limited to: OPNAV staff; Commander, USFLTFORCOM and Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT); PEO(U&W); Director, Strategic Systems Programs (DIRSSP); Defense Threat Reduction Agency; Joint Chiefs of Staff; Office of the Secretary of Defense; and DOE/NNSA.

(6) Provide assessment and resource sponsorship for TLAM-N air vehicle integrated logistics support (ILS) and weapons systems support through Operations and Maintenance Navy (O&MN) funding which includes the SEARA Program.

c. CNO N8. CNO N8 is the DON echelon 1 supported FO for allocation of resources for submersible ship nuclear (SSN) weapon control and weapon launching systems and the NW system from research and development through production.

d. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Operations, Plans and Strategy) (CNO N3/N5). CNO N3/N5 is the DON echelon 1 supported FO responsible for the operational status of Navy NW and NW systems forces. CNO N3/N5 shall:

(1) Serve as DON policy subject matter expert for the Joint Test Policy Review Group for the NWSSTP.

(2) Resolve, upon request from the other Military Services or from lower echelon commands, the funding requirements to provide salvage operations when a test weapon is lost during an exercise and recovery is required.

e. USFLTFORCOM and COMPACFLT. USFLTFORCOM and COMPACFLT are the DON echelon 2 supported commanders responsible for the safe, secure, and reliable technical operation and maintenance of fielded NW and NW systems under their cognizance. USFLTFORCOM and COMPACFLT shall:

(1) Provide representatives to NWSSTPG meetings.

(2) Develop and submit to the NWSSTPG operational schedules reflecting all fleet activities necessary to support the SEARA Program including, but not limited to, firing tests, reviews, and evaluations.

(3) Schedule and deploy firing platforms and other fleet resources as necessary to support the SEARA Program. Resolves range support services resource issues with PEO(U&W).

(4) Inform the NWSSTPG of any failure to adhere to the schedules delineated in the previous two paragraphs.

(5) Assign the officer conducting exercise to enact each QAST operation.

f. DIRSSP. DIRSSP is the DON echelon 2 supported FO and technical authority for the TLAM-N warhead and responsible for inventory control and accountability of all Navy NW related material and:

(1) Provides support service logistics agent directed movements of NW test assets to support the SEARA Program.

(2) Is responsible for custody, control, and accountability of all TLAM-N material located at Strategic Systems Programs' (SSP) facilities.

(3) Is responsible for all maintenance operations on TLAM-N air vehicles at SSP facilities.

(4) Is responsible for oversight and adherence to all PEO (U&W) technical requirements in support of maintaining the TLAM-N NW system.

(5) Executes the above responsibilities through a MOU between DIRSSP and PEO (U&W).

g. PEO (U&W). PEO (U&W) is the supporting FO to DIRSSP responsible for program management, technical operations, and ILS for the Tomahawk weapons system, the Tomahawk nuclear program, and the Tomahawk air vehicle. PEO (U&W) shall:

(1) Execute the MOU with DOE/NNSA for the operation of the SEARA Program on behalf of the DON.

(2) Provide acquisition support and life-cycle management for assigned weapons systems.

(3) Designate the Navy chair to the NWSSTPG.

(4) Provide Navy members to NWSSTPG meetings.

(5) Establish and ensure execution of detailed SEARA operating procedures per reference (c).

(6) PEO (U&W), in conjunction with DIRSSP, shall:

(a) Analyze DoD and DOE test results, including all post-test reports, and provide an independent assessment of overall weapons systems reliability for United States Strategic Command.

(b) Inform CNO N4 of analysis and recommendations for resolving deficiencies identified during SEARA testing.

(c) Coordinate with CNO N4 to ensure that the ONWC and the SLOC have the most current information, including, but not limited to, information contained in the reliability and stockpile quality reports and DOE/NNSA reports.

(d) Ensure that the following reliability and stockpile quality reports are completed and forwarded to CNO N4.

1. QAST Mission Firing Plan (MFP). Issued at least 1 month prior to the QAST field exercise. The MFP documents the test planning for conduct of the QAST. It provides detailed guidance and instructions to the exercise participants.

2. QAST Quicklook Message Report. A message report, issued by on-site Navy representatives at the QAST exercise location within 24 hours of the exercise. The message provides preliminary QAST exercise status information. For joint flight tests, the on-site DOE representative will provide DOE reportable data to the Navy for the quicklook report.

3. QAST Firing Report. Issued 60 days after the QAST exercise and provides the details and results of the test.

4. Failure Analysis Reports. Issued on an as-required basis on the failure analysis of components from the NWSSTP testing program.

5. TLAM-N Evaluation Report. An annual report that provides estimates of weapons systems reliability and weapons systems accuracy planning factors for the use of tactical operations planners.

(e) Coordinate with DOE/NNSA to ensure the following reports are completed and submitted to CNO N4:

1. W80-0/1 System Reliability Assessment Report. A biennial report providing an updated reliability assessment for the W80 warhead.

2. Stockpile Evaluation Program Report, W80 Cycle Report. An annual report containing the description and results of all tests conducted during the test cycle.

Significant defects which were observed and their effect on the reliability assessment are discussed, and future test plans are described.

(f) Chair semi-annual meetings with the Tomahawk Nuclear Program Integrated Product Team.

9. Records Management. Records created by this instruction, regardless of media, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual (M-)5210.1 of November 2007.

10. Reports Control. The reporting requirements contained within this instruction are exempt from reports control per SECNAV M-5214.1 of December 2005.



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