



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

Canc frp: Feb 2016

OPNAVNOTE 5400
Ser DNS-33/15U102212
4 Feb 2015

OPNAV NOTICE 5400

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: ESTABLISHMENT OF HELICOPTER MARITIME STRIKE SQUADRON
SEVEN NINE

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5400.44A
(b) OPNAVINST 3111.17
(c) OPNAVINST 5400.45

1. Purpose. To approve the establishment of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron SEVEN NINE (HSM-79), per reference (a).

2. Background

a. OPNAV N78H letter Ser N78H/3U636275 of 29JUL2003 approved the re-designation of all helicopter squadrons and the establishment of new squadrons to support the naval aviation helicopter master plan and concept of operations as the Navy transitions to the Seahawk (MH-60R) and Knighthawk (MH-60S). Per reference (b), Navy Strategic Laydown and Dispersal Plan 2014 annual review process, the Navy will establish HSM-79 in San Diego, California as the sixth carrier based HSM squadron in the Pacific. It will be assigned to one of the six carrier air wings in the Pacific; in direct support of the Quadrennial Defense Review guidance for the Navy to posture six operational carriers in the Pacific.

b. A preliminary establishment unit consisting of key command billets will stand up on 1 October 2015 to plan and phase in aircrew and maintenance personnel required to execute the fleet replacement squadron training syllabus starting in May 2016. The squadron will be assigned 11 MH-60R aircraft in support of establishing initial operational capability around January 2017.

3. Organizational Change. HSM-79 shall be established effective 1 October 2015. Publicized date is 1 February 2015. The following applies:

a. Establishment

Commanding Officer
Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron SEVEN NINE (HSM-79)
NAS North Island
PO Box 357117
San Diego, CA 92135

(SNDL: 42CC2)* (UIC: 57820)
(PLA: HELMARSTRIKERON SEVEN NINE)
(PDS: San Diego, CA)

*(SNDL: Standard Naval Distribution List; UIC: unit identification code; PLA: plain language address; PDS: permanent duty station)

b. Mission. To conduct all weather rotary wing operations in open ocean and littoral environments as an integral part of a carrier air wing in support of a carrier strike group. The squadron operates as a networked distributed force with a core onboard the carrier and MH-60R detachments onboard surface combatants.

c. Budget Submitting Office. Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) (00070).

d. Office of the Chief of Naval Operations Resource Sponsor. Director, Aviation Warfare Division (OPNAV N98), Director, Fleet Readiness Division (OPNAV N43).

e. Area Coordination. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (00060) and Commander, Navy Installations Command (00052).

f. Regional Coordination. Commander, Navy Region Southwest (00242).

g. Local Coordination. Commanding Officer, Naval Base Coronado (00246).

h. Administrative Chain of Command

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations (00011)
- 2 Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (00070)

- 3 Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet
(57025)
- 4 Commander, Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Pacific
(55630)
- 5 Commanding Officer, Helicopter Maritime Strike
Squadron SEVEN NINE (57820)

4. Action

a. COMPACFLT, Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Commander, Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Pacific shall take appropriate action to establish HSM-79 per Navy rules, regulations, directives, and tradition. Ensure HSM-79 is deployable, properly manned, fully trained, capably equipped, interoperable, well maintained, and combat-sustainable as an operational squadron to meet the mission requirements for carrier MH-60R squadrons.

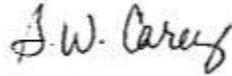
b. Master Update Authority, Honolulu, HI will add the PLA in the Central Directory Component via messaging systems effective immediately upon Commander, Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Pacific request to Commander, Naval Network Warfare Command (COMNAVNETWARCOM) (Network Operations 321), 112 Lake View Pkwy, Suffolk, VA 23435-2696 or by calling (757) 203-0338/0339. New PLAs will be activated via messaging systems. Additional information on naval messaging can be obtained at <https://sailor.nmci.navy.smil.mil> or by contacting COMNAVNETWARCOM at numbers above. (ACTION REQUIRED - Commander, Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Pacific regarding the PLA).

c. This is advance change 08-15 to reference (c), the SNDL.

5. Records Management. Records created as a result of this notice, regardless of media or format, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

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6. Cancellation Contingency. This notice will remain in effect for 1 year or until superseded, whichever occurs first. The organization action will remain effective until changed by Director, Navy Staff.



S. W. Carey
Director of Management

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