



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.351

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: MISSION, FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF NAVAL AIRSPACE AND AIR
TRAFFIC CONTROL STANDARD AND EVALUATION AGENCY

Ref: (a) DoD Directive 5030.19 of 15 June 1997
(b) OPNAVINST 3722.33D
(c) OPNAVINST 3770.2K
(d) OPNAVINST 11010.36C
(e) OPNAVINST 11010.40
(f) NWP 3-56.3, Multi-Service Procedures for Joint Air
Traffic Control
(g) NAVAIR 00-80T-114, NATOPS Air Traffic Control Manual,
July 2009
(h) OPNAVINST 3710.7U
(i) FAA Order 1110.76T, Air Traffic Procedures Advisory
Committee
(j) OPNAVINST 3721.5L
(k) OPNAVINST 3722.35
(l) FAA Order 8260.3B, United States Standards for
Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS)
(m) OPNAVINST 3721.20D
(n) OPNAVINST 3750.6R
(o) OPNAVINST 3750.16C

Encl: (1) Mission and Functions of the Naval Airspace and Air
Traffic Control Standards and Evaluation Agency

1. Purpose. To publish the mission, functions and tasks of the
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Naval Airspace
and Air Traffic Control Standards and Evaluation Agency
(NAATSEA).

2. Background

a. United States Federal Regulations, Department of State
Status of Forces Agreements, Department of Defense (DoD)
directives, and combat environments require Department of the

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Navy (DON) airspace management and air traffic control (ATC) services in support of the safe, orderly, and expeditious control of aircraft ashore and afloat. To execute these requirements, DON serves as an air navigation service provider (ANSP) for DoD, allied, and civil aircraft in support of national objectives throughout en route, terminal, special activity airspace (SAA), and tactical environments.

b. DON ANSP responsibilities associated with flight planning, control tower, approach control, en route, SAA, and tactical environments are provided to support the training, readiness, and operational requirements of DON aviation units operating ashore, afloat, and at expeditionary airfields in support of joint forces combatant commander requirements. Also, separation, sequencing, navigation, and approach to landing services are provided to civil aircraft operating within or passing through airspace delegated to the DON. The DON services provided are fully equivalent to that provided by civilian ANSPs within the United States National Airspace System (NAS) and other international airspace systems; transition to and from DON ATC services is transparent to the user.

c. In addition to ANSP responsibilities, DON has a vital role in modernization and transformation efforts of the United States Federal ATC System. This role includes airspace architecture redesign, policy change, equipment redesign, and emphasis on improved interoperability through participation in the Joint Planning and Development Office (JPDO) and development of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen).

d. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Systems (CNO (N9)) maintains a staff under Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV (N98)) in execution of requirements associated with references (a) through (o); however, the responsibilities between resource sponsor and ANSP (execution of policy) were not well defined. As such, NAATSEA was established to serve as the DON lead for airspace and ATC matters.

3. Command Relationships. OPNAV (N98) commands and provides primary support for the NAATSEA.

4. Execution. Director, NAATSEA, in collaboration with the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Headquarters Marine Corps Aviation, Aviation Programs Expeditionary Enablers, Air Traffic

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Control and Airspace (CMC APX-25) when necessary, will be the originating agency for all Navy airspace and ATC policies and procedures. Staff members within NAATSEA are authorized direct liaison with staffs from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), DoD and joint services, and DON Headquarters commands and agencies.

5. Action. Mission and functions of NAATSEA are set forth in enclosure (1).

6. 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.



W. F. MORAN

Director, Air Warfare

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MISSION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE NAVAL AIRSPACE AND AIR
TRAFFIC CONTROL STANDARDS AND EVALUATION AGENCY

Mission

1. To serve, in collaboration CMC APX-25, as the DON lead for airspace and ATC matters; to assess, integrate and synchronize DON airspace management and ATC services and equipment across the doctrine, organization, training, material, leadership, personnel, and facilities spectrum; to interface with operational commands, resources sponsors, system commands, research organizations, doctrine developers, and training organizations to provide airspace and ATC support to the fleet.

2. Stimulate communication across all disciplines of DON airspace management and ATC, fosters airspace management and ATC service organizational alignment, and encourages inter-service and inter-agency coordination on airspace and ATC service matters. Director, NAATSEA has overall authority for satisfying DON airspace management and ATC service requirements and facilitates the Naval Aviation Enterprise vision to efficiently deliver the right force, with the right readiness, at the right time; as levied by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and unified and specified commands, today and in the future.

Functions

1. Establish DON policies, procedures, processes and guidance for safe, effective and efficient operation and administration of DON units providing airspace management and ATC services.

a. Represent OPNAV (N98) on the DoD Policy Board for Federal Aviation Senior Advisory Group, per reference (a).

b. Coordinate DON airspace and air traffic position regarding joint policies affecting: ICAO, special use airspace (SUA), Interagency Group on International Aviation, oceanic navigation, airports, and Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS).

c. Serve as the chair of the NAATSEA Executive Steering Committee.

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d. Host the annual Navy and Marine Corps ATC Leadership Continuum and promote participation in the Navy and Marine Corps ATC Symposium.

2. Provide DON policy and guidance for comprehensive airspace planning between the DON, DoD, FAA, and other Government agencies, State governments, and civil communities per references (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).

a. Direct and manage the DON Airspace Planning and Procedures program via reference (d). Define, validate, and coordinate naval requirements; develop and update DON Airspace Plan using regional airspace plans submitted by the Navy representatives (NAVREPs) located at FAA service centers. Maintain direct liaison with the FAA, State and local governments, host nations, and other military services.

b. Serve as the reporting senior, providing policy guidance and supervision, for the NAVREPs at FAA Headquarters and at FAA Service Area Headquarters.

c. Manage the DON process associated with the FAA Obstruction Evaluation and Airport Airspace Analysis program to evaluate objects that affect navigable airspace and take appropriate action to coordinate mitigate options as required.

d. Serve as the Navy's lead agency to review and recommend changes to FAA policy and procedures for airspace management, planning, coordination, and DON special operations.

e. Serve as the Navy's lead agency for integration of UAS into the NAS, coordinating with FAA for near term mission requirements and the development of long-term strategies.

f. Collaborate with FAA National Headquarters on staffing FAA air traffic representative's at designated DON facilities per references (a) and (b).

g. Collaborate with Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Fleet Readiness and Logistics (CNO (N4)) on Air Installation Compatible Use Zone plans and Range Air Installation Compatible Use Zone plans matters, and range airspace encroachment and SUA requirements needed for range operations in support of references (c) and (d).

h. Monitor the application of and compliance with the treaty on open skies by naval airspace and air traffic units. Collaborate with Naval Treaty Implementation Program Office, as circumstances dictate.

i. Represent the DON at Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics as a member of the NextGen Advisory Committee Airspace and Procedures Working Group.

j. Maintain close liaison with FAA, Department of Homeland Security and other DoD agencies on aviation security policies. Serve as the DON focal point for Emergency Security Control of Air Traffic under reference (b).

k. Collaborate with Naval Warfare Development Command concerning multi-service procedures for joint ATC as contained in reference (f).

3. Provide DON policy and guidance for comprehensive execution of ATC services and planning between the DON, DoD, FAA, and other Government agencies, State governments, and civil communities, per references (a), (g), and (h).

a. Receive allegations from FAA concerning pilot deviations by naval aviators, and adjudicate or refer such matters for investigation, per reference (h).

b. Direct and manage the application of training and certification of air traffic controllers, per references (g) and (h).

c. Issue air traffic controller credentials as agreed upon with the FAA and revoke appropriate credentials where warranted per reference (g).

d. Serve as the model manager and establish objectives for and monitor the ATC Naval Air Training and Operations Procedures Standardization (NATOPS) Evaluation program, per reference (g).

e. Designate NATOPS evaluation units to determine the effectiveness of shipboard, shore, or expeditionary ATC training and operations as directed in reference (h).

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f. Maintain liaison with Commander, Naval Medical Command concerning physical standards for DON air traffic controllers. Serve as authority to grant waivers to physical standards for Navy, DoD-employed civilian controllers per reference (g).

g. Sponsor the Vice Admiral Robert B. Pirie Air Traffic Controller of the Year and Vice Admiral William P. Lawrence Air Traffic Control Technician of the Year award programs, per reference (g).

h. Coordinate with Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIRSYSCOM), Aviation Training Systems (PMA-205) concerning development and capabilities of ATC training devices and simulators to ensure credible controller proficiency training. Serve as a member of the ATC Proficiency Training Systems Trainer Management Team.

i. Monitor national issues, including legislation which could impact current planned air traffic and airspace related initiatives.

j. Respond to congressional inquiries, Government Accountability Office requests, Federal Register announcements and proposed rules, FAA exemptions and waivers, and Freedom of Information Act requests regarding airspace and air traffic issues.

k. Represent the DON on the Department of Transportation Air Traffic Procedures Advisory Committee in the formulation, review or change of Federal air traffic procedures, per reference (i).

l. Participate in North Atlantic Treaty Organization Standardization Agreement development, review, ratification and implementation in support of joint common operational and administrative procedures affecting airspace and ATC service.

m. Analyze training requirements and shortfalls to support formal education development and targeted training initiatives.

4. Serve as the single process owner and manage the Naval ATC Navigation Aids and Landing Systems (NAALS) program, per reference (j).

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a. Formulate and prioritize electronic resource requirements for the NAALS program, per reference (j).

b. Propose planning and programming actions that will enable naval aviation activities to maintain or improve their capability to utilize NAALS. In collaboration with Commander, Naval Air Forces, Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Commander, Naval Installations Command, and Marine Corps Installations Commands, be the unified voice for ATC systems requirements in coordination with NAVAIRSYSCOM, Naval Air Traffic Management Systems (PMA-213) for input to the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution process.

c. Chair the ATC Naval Aviation Requirement Group, per reference (j).

d. Maintain liaison with NAVAIRSYSCOM and Space and Warfare Systems Command cognizant field activities and in-service engineering agents regarding life cycle engineering, technical support, installation planning and system performance evaluation for ashore, afloat and expeditionary ATC equipment.

e. Collaborate with CNO (N4) to ensure operating funds are sufficient to meet mission readiness of airspace and air traffic systems under the NAALS program.

f. Serve as the central coordinator and repository for DON airspace and air traffic statistical reports and summaries.

g. Assign fleet project teams in support of system development or upgrade to evaluate and recommend appropriate disposition and implementation action on selected change proposals, per reference (j).

5. Manage the baseline criteria for Naval Air Traffic Control Facility Resource Criteria program per reference (k).

a. Evaluate and designate the appropriate facility classification commensurate with the airspace and ATC service required.

b. Ensure configuration control and standardization of equipment is maintained to support the approved facility classification.

c. Collaborate with Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education (CNO (N1)) in development of policy for manpower requirements and allocation, distribution, performance, and qualification of air traffic controllers and electronic technicians in conformance with Navy-wide manpower and personnel to support of national and international requirements. Collaborate with enlisted community and officer community managers on policies and programs that affect career path and progression.

d. Represent the DON at the JPDO in support of references (a), (j), and (k) during the transformation of the NAS into NextGen.

6. Manage the DON Terminal Instrument Procedures via the Naval Flight Information Group and reference (l).

a. Manage the submission, changes, reviews and validation of all DON terminal procedures, per reference (l).

b. Monitor and coordinate the review, evaluation and validation of civil and host nation instrument procedures as dictated by naval flying unit requirements.

c. Serve as a member of the Safety of Navigation Aeronautical Executive Steering Group at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

7. Serve as the DON representative for the DoD Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) System, per reference (m).

a. Serve as the reporting senior, providing policy guidance and supervision, for the DON representative to the FAA Air Traffic Control Command Center DoD NOTAM Division.

b. Collaborate on management of the DoD portion of the United States NOTAM System.

c. Coordinate with domestic, international, and military NOTAM offices, as well as aeronautical information services offices in order to meet DON NOTAM requirements.

d. Review DoD and FAA policy and guidance to maintain NOTAM system integrity.

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e. Ensure standardization of DON NOTAM products through training, field conferences, and briefings.

8. Collaborate with the Naval Safety Center on ATC hazard reporting requirements, per reference (n). Support investigations of aviation mishaps, per reference (o).

a. Maintain close liaison with the Naval Safety Center to identify hazards to aviation and analyze safety trends involving ATC, per reference (o).

b. Cooperate with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) when NTSB is performing any of its duties or functions related to DON airspace and ATC service.