

## Chapter 12

# **FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS**

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Chapter 12

**FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES  
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**Section 1. General**

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**1201. Authority for Dispensing With Honors.**

The honors and ceremonies prescribed in these regulations may be dispensed with when directed by the Secretary of the Navy or when requested by an individual to whom such honors and ceremonies are due.

**1202. Honors Restricted to Recognized Governments.**

No salute shall be fired in honor of any nation or of any official of any nation not formally recognized by the Government of the United States. Except as authorized by the Secretary of

the Navy, no other honors or ceremonies prescribed in these regulations shall be rendered or exchanged with such nations or officials.

**1203. International Honors Modified by Agreement.**

Should the required number or frequency of international salutes, official visits or other honors or ceremonies be deemed excessive, the senior officer present in the United States naval service may make, subject to the requirements of international courtesy, such modification as circumstances warrant and as may be agreed upon with the responsible officials or the senior officer present of the nation involved.

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## Chapter 12

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## Section 2. Honors to National Anthems and National Ensigns

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#### 1204. Manner of Playing National Anthems.

1. The National Anthem of the United States, "The Star Spangled Banner," when played by a naval band, shall be played in its entirety as written and as prescribed in the official U.S. Navy Band arrangement, which is designated the official Department of Defense arrangement.
2. The playing of the National Anthem of the United States, or of any other country, as a part of a medley is prohibited.
3. When a foreign national anthem is prescribed in connection with honors, and it is considered appropriate to perform the National Anthem of the United States therewith, the National Anthem of the United States will be performed last.
4. On other occasions when a foreign national anthem (or anthems) is performed, the National Anthem of the United States will be performed last, except when performed in conjunction with morning colors, as described in Article 1206.10.

#### 1205. Procedure During Playing of National Anthem.

1. Whenever the National Anthem is played, all naval service personnel not in formation shall stand at attention and face the national ensign. In the event that the national ensign is not displayed, they shall face the source of the music. When covered, they shall come to the

salute at the first note of the anthem, and shall remain at the salute until the last note of the anthem. Persons in formation are brought to order arms or called to attention as appropriate. The formation commander shall face in the direction of the ensign or, in the absence of the ensign, shall face in the direction of the music and shall render the appropriate salute for the unit. Persons in formation participating in a ceremony shall, on command, follow the procedure prescribed for the ceremony. Persons in vehicles or in boats shall follow the procedure prescribed in the following article for such persons during colors. Persons in civilian clothes shall comply with the rules and customs established for civilians.

2. The same marks of respect prescribed during the playing of the National Anthem shall be shown during the playing of a foreign national anthem.

#### 1206. Morning and Evening Colors.

1. The ceremonial hoisting and lowering of the national ensign at 0800 and sunset at a naval command ashore or aboard a ship of the Navy not under way shall be known as morning and evening colors, respectively, and shall be carried out as prescribed in this article.
2. The guard of the day and the band shall be paraded in the vicinity of the point of hoist of the ensign.

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3. "Attention" shall be sounded, followed by the playing of the National Anthem by the band.

4. At morning colors, the ensign shall be started up at the beginning of the music and hoisted smartly to the peak or truck. At evening colors, the ensign shall be started from the peak or truck at the beginning of the music and the lowering so regulated as to be completed at the last note.

5. At the completion of the music, "Carry On" shall be sounded.

6. In the absence of a band, or an appropriate recording to be played over a public address system, "To the Colors" shall be played by the bugle at morning colors, and "Retreat" at evening colors. The salute shall be rendered as prescribed for the National Anthem.

7. In the absence of music, "Attention" and "Carry On" shall be the signals for rendering and terminating the salute. "Carry On" shall be sounded as soon as the ensign is completely lowered.

8. During colors, a boat under way within sight or hearing of the ceremony shall lie to, or shall proceed at the slowest safe speed. The boat officer, or the coxswain in the absence of the boat officer, shall stand and salute except when dangerous to do so. Other persons in the boat shall remain seated or standing and shall not salute.

9. During colors, vehicles within sight or hearing of the ceremony shall be stopped. Persons riding in such vehicles shall remain seated at attention.

10. After morning colors, if foreign warships are present, the national anthem of each nation so represented shall be played in the order in which a gun salute would be fired to, or exchanged with, the senior official or officer present of each such nation; provided that, when in a foreign port, the national anthem of the port shall be played immediately after morning colors, followed by the national anthems of other foreign nations represented.

### 1207. Salutes to the National Ensign.

1. Each person in the naval service, upon coming on board a ship of the Navy, shall salute the national ensign if it is flying. He or she shall stop on reaching the upper platform of the

accommodation ladder, or the shipboard end of the brow, face the national ensign, and render the salute, after which he or she shall salute the officer of the deck. On leaving the ship, he or she shall render the salutes in inverse order. The officer of the deck shall return both salutes in each case.

a. After rendering the appropriate salute to the national ensign, an officer coming on board a ship to which he or she is attached shall report his or her return. An officer coming on board a ship to which he or she is not attached shall request permission to come on board and shall state his or her business. An enlisted person shall request permission to come on board, and shall state his or her business if the ship is not the one to which he or she is attached.

b. After rendering the appropriate salute to the officer of the deck, an officer shall state that he or she has permission to leave. An enlisted person shall request permission to leave.

2. A member not in uniform shall render appropriate honors to the national ensign by facing the flag and standing at attention with the right hand over the heart. If covered, men shall remove their headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

3. Each person in the naval service in uniform, upon being passed by or passing a military formation carrying the national ensign uncased shall render the hand salute. A member not in uniform being passed by or passing such a formation shall face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. If covered, men shall remove the headdress and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in vehicles or boats shall follow the procedure prescribed for such persons during colors.

4. The salutes prescribed in this article shall also be rendered to foreign national flags and ensigns and aboard foreign men-of-war, unless to do so would cause embarrassment or misunderstanding. Aboard foreign men-of-war, the practice of the host nation may be followed, if known.

### 1208. "Hail to the Chief."

1. The traditional music selection "Hail to the Chief" is designated as a musical tribute to the

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President of the United States, and as such will not be performed by naval bands as a tribute to other dignitaries. The same honors as accorded during renditions of the National Anthem or "To the Colors" will be given to "Hail to the Chief" by naval personnel.

2. When performed by naval bands, renditions of "Hail to the Chief" shall be as prescribed in the official U.S. Marine Band arrangement, which is designated as the official Department of Defense arrangement.

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## Section 3. Hand Salutes and Other Marks of Respect

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#### 1209. Exchange of Hand Salutes.

1. The hand salute is the long-established form of greeting and recognition exchanged between persons in the armed services. All persons in the naval service shall be alert to render or return the salute as prescribed in these regulations.
2. The salute by persons in the naval service shall be rendered and returned with the right hand, when practicable. With arms in hand, the salute appropriate thereto shall be rendered or returned.
3. Juniors shall salute first. All salutes received when in uniform and covered shall be returned; at other times salutes received shall be appropriately acknowledged. Persons uncovered shall not salute, except when failure to do so would cause embarrassment or misunderstanding.
4. Civilians may be saluted by persons in uniform when appropriate, but the uniform hat or cap shall not be raised as a form of salutation.
5. A person in the naval service not in uniform shall, in rendering salutes or exchanging greetings, comply with the rules and customs established for a civilian, except that, when saluting another person in the armed services, the hand salute shall be used.

#### 1210. Occasions for Rendering Hand Salutes.

1. Salutes shall be rendered by persons in the naval service to officers of the armed services of

the United States, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Public Health Service and foreign armed services.

2. All persons in the naval service shall salute all officers senior to themselves on each occasion of meeting or passing near or when addressing or being addressed by such officers, except that:

- a. On board ship, salutes shall be dispensed with after the first daily meeting, except for those rendered to the commanding officer and officers senior to him or her, to visiting officers, to officers making inspections, and to officers when addressing or being addressed by them.

- b. When such procedure does not conflict with the spirit of these regulations, at crowded gatherings or in congested areas, salutes shall be rendered only by a person addressing or being addressed by an officer who is senior to him or her.

- c. Persons at work or engaged in games shall salute only when addressed by an officer senior to them and then only if circumstances warrant.

- d. Persons in formation shall salute only on command.

- e. When boats pass each other with embarked officers or officials in view, hand salutes shall be rendered by the senior officer and coxswain in each boat. Officers seated in boats shall not rise when saluting; coxswains shall rise unless it is dangerous or impracticable to do so.

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f. Persons operating moving motor vehicles should not render or return salutes. Passengers will render and return salutes.

g. Persons guarding prisoners will not salute.

### 1211. Other Marks of Respect.

1. Juniors shall show deference to seniors at all times by recognizing their presence and by employing a courteous and respectful bearing and mode of speech toward them.

2. Juniors shall stand at attention, unless seated at mess, or unless circumstances make such action impracticable or inappropriate:

a. When addressed by an officer senior to them.

b. When an officer of flag or general rank, the commanding officer, or an officer senior to the commanding officer in the chain of command, or an officer making an official inspection enters the room, compartment or deck space where they may be.

3. Juniors shall walk or ride on the left of seniors whom they are accompanying.

4. Officers shall enter boats, aircraft and automobiles in inverse order of rank and shall leave them in order of rank, unless there is special reason to the contrary. The seniors shall be accorded the more desirable seats.

5. Subject to the requirements of the rules for preventing collisions, junior boats shall avoid crowding or embarrassing senior boats.

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## Section 4. Gun Salutes

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#### 1212. Saluting Ships and Stations.

Saluting ships and stations of the naval service are those designated as such by the Secretary of the Navy or by the Secretary's duly authorized representative. The gun salutes prescribed in these regulations shall be fired by such ships and stations. Other ships and stations shall not fire gun salutes unless directed to do so by the senior officer present on exceptional occasions when courtesy requires.

#### 1213. Gun Salutes to the Flag of the President or the Secretary of State.

1. A 21-gun salute shall be fired to the flag of the President:

a. by each ship falling in with a ship displaying such flag, arriving at a place where such flag is displayed ashore or present when such flag is broken;

b. by a naval station when a ship displaying such flag arrives at the naval station, or when such flag is broken by a ship present; and

c. by a flag or general officer assuming command or, while in command, breaking the flag of an increased grade, in the presence of a ship or naval station displaying the flag of the President.

2. Under the circumstances prescribed by this article, a 19-gun salute shall be fired to the flag of the Secretary of State when acting as special foreign representative of the President.

1214. Gun Salutes to the Flag of the Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, an Under Secretary of Defense, an Assistant Secretary of Defense, the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, the Under Secretary of the Navy or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

1. A 19-gun salute shall be fired to the flag of the Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of

Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, Under Secretary of the Navy, Under Secretary of Defense, the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, or the Under Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

a. by each ship falling in with a ship displaying such flag, arriving at a place where such flag is displayed ashore or present when such flag is broken. When two or more ships are in company, only the senior shall salute;

b. by a naval station when a ship displaying such flag arrives at the naval station, or when such flag is broken by a ship present; and

c. by a flag or general officer assuming command or, while in command, breaking the flag of an increased grade, in the presence of a ship or naval station displaying the flag of such official; provided that such officer is the senior officer present or the senior officer present on shore.

2. When the flags of two or more such officials are displayed under the circumstances prescribed by this article, only the flag of the senior shall be saluted.

**1215. Gun Salutes to a Foreign Nation.**

1. When a ship enters a port of a foreign nation, the government of which is formally recognized by the Government of the United States, she shall fire a salute of 21 guns to that nation unless:

a. there is present no saluting battery or warship of that nation capable of returning the salute; or

b. the ship is returning from a temporary absence from port, when, by agreement with local authorities, the salute may be dispensed with.

2. When a ship is passing through the territorial waters of a foreign nation with no intention of anchoring therein, the salute to the nation need not be fired unless unusual circumstances make it desirable to do so.

3. In case of two or more ships arriving in port or passing through territorial waters of a foreign nation in company, only the senior shall fire the salute prescribed in this article.

4. The salute to the nation, if fired, shall precede any salutes fired in honor of individuals.

**1216. Returning Salute to the Nation fired by Foreign Warship.**

A salute to the nation fired by a foreign warship entering a port of the United States shall be returned by the senior ship present, provided no saluting battery of an armed service of the United States, designated to return such salutes, is present in the area.

**1217. Gun Salutes to the Flag of a Foreign President, Sovereign or Member of a Reigning Royal Family.**

1. A 21-gun salute shall be fired by a ship or station to the flag or standard of the president, sovereign or member of a reigning royal family under the circumstances prescribed in these regulations for firing a salute to the flag of the President of the United States.

2. In some foreign countries it is the custom to fire special 21-gun salutes on certain occasions in honor of the president, sovereign or member of the reigning royal family. In such cases, ships shall conform to the national custom when requested by the proper local authorities.

**1218. Gun Salutes When Several Heads of State Are Present.**

1. Each ship, upon entering a port where the personal flags or standards of several presidents, sovereigns or members of reigning royal families are displayed, shall fire a 21-gun salute to each of the several flags or standards displayed, in the following order:

a. the president, sovereign or member of the reigning royal family of the nation to which the port belongs;

b. the President of the United States;

c. the presidents or sovereigns of other nations, in alphabetical order of the names of the nations in the English language; and

d. members of reigning royal families of other nations, in the same order as in subparagraph c. above.

2. In the circumstances set forth in this article, only the flag or standard of the senior dignitary of each nation will be saluted.

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### 1219. Authority to Fire Gun Salutes to Officers in the United States Naval Service.

Gun salutes prescribed in Article 1235 of these regulations for officers and officials entitled to 17 or more guns shall be fired on the occasion of each official visit of the individual concerned. Gun salutes prescribed in these regulations for officers and officials entitled to 15 guns or less shall not be fired unless so ordered by the senior officer present or higher authority.

### 1220. Gun Salutes to the Senior Officer Present.

1. A flag officer who is the senior officer present shall be saluted by the senior of one or more ships arriving in port.
2. When a flag officer embarked in a ship of his or her command arrives in port and is the senior officer present, or when a flag officer assumes command and becomes the senior officer present, he or she shall be saluted by the former senior officer present.
3. A gun salute shall be fired by the flagship when a flag officer who is the senior officer present assumes or is relieved of command, or is advanced in grade.
4. A flag officer who is not the senior officer present shall, upon assuming command, fire a salute to the senior officer present.
5. The provisions of this article shall be subject to the provisions of Article 1226.4 and shall apply, where appropriate, to officers of the naval service in command ashore.

### 1221. Gun Salutes to Foreign Flag Officers.

1. When a ship enters a port where there is present no officer of the naval service senior to the senior arriving officer, and finds displayed there, afloat or ashore, the flags of foreign flag officers of one or more nations, salutes shall be exchanged with the senior flag officer present of each nation.
2. The senior officer present of the United States Navy in a port shall exchange gun salutes with the senior foreign flag officer displaying a flag in an arriving warship, provided such flag officer is the senior officer present of his or her nation.

3. Upon departure from port of the senior officer present of the United States Navy, the new senior officer present shall exchange gun salutes with the senior flag officer present of each foreign nation.

4. The senior officer present of the United States Navy shall exchange gun salutes with the senior officer present of a foreign nation when either hoists the flag of an increased grade.

5. In firing the salutes prescribed by this article, the following rules shall govern:

a. An officer of a junior grade shall fire the first salute.

b. When officers are of the same grade, the arriving officer shall fire the first salute.

c. Seniors shall be saluted in order of rank, except that when firing salutes to two or more foreign officers of the same grade, the first salute fired to an officer in that grade shall be to the flag officer of the nationality of the port.

6. When a ship of the Navy falls in at sea with a foreign warship displaying the flag of a flag officer, an exchange of salutes shall be fired, the junior saluting first. Such salutes shall be exchanged only between the senior United States ship and the senior foreign ship. Should flag officers be of the same grade and their relative rank be unknown or in doubt, they should mutually salute without delay.

7. The provisions of this article shall be subject to the provisions of Article 1226.4.

### 1222. Notification of Gun Salute.

Whenever practicable, an official or officer to be saluted shall be notified of the salute and the time that it is to be fired.

### 1223. Procedure During a Gun Salute.

1. The interval between gun salutes normally shall be five seconds.

2. During the gun salute, persons on the quarter-deck, or in the ceremonial party if ashore, shall render the hand salute. Observers on deck, or in the vicinity of the ceremonial party if ashore, shall stand at attention facing the personage, or if the personage is not in view, toward the ceremonial party, and if in uniform shall salute.

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3. Officers being saluted shall render the hand salute during the firing of the gun salute.

4. The boat or vehicle in which a person being saluted is embarked shall be stopped, if practicable to do so, during the firing of the gun salute.

### 1224. Inability to Render or Return a Gun Salute.

1. A gun salute shall not be fired when a return salute is required and cannot be fired, but shall be considered as having been rendered and returned.

2. In cases where, from any special cause, a ship, from which a salute in compliment to a foreign power or official may reasonably be expected, is unable to salute, the circumstances are to be explained immediately to the representative of such foreign power.

3. In cases where, from any special circumstances, the failure to salute cannot be explained without giving offense to a foreign power or official, salutes shall be fired by any ship which can do so with safety.

### 1225. Returning a Gun Salute.

1. The following rules shall be observed by United States ships and stations:

a. A salute fired to the nation by a foreign ship arriving in port shall be returned gun for gun.

b. A salute fired to a flag or general officer by a foreign ship or station shall be returned gun for gun.

c. A salute fired in honor of the President of the United States, or of the Secretary of State when acting as special representative of the President, shall not be returned.

d. A salute fired in honor of any official or officer on the occasion of an official visit or inspection shall not be returned.

e. A salute fired in honor of a flag or general officer by his or her flagship or headquarters shall not be returned.

f. A salute fired in honor of an anniversary, celebration or solemnity shall not be returned.

g. Subject to the provisions of this article, a salute fired in honor of a United States officer or official shall be returned with the number of guns specified for the grade of the flag or general officer rendering the salute, or, if he or she is not a flag or general officer, with seven guns.

2. No return salute may be expected in the case of a salute fired by a United States ship or station in honor of a foreign sovereign, head of state, member of a reigning royal family or special representative of a head of state, or on the occasion of a foreign anniversary, celebration or solemnity, or on the occasion of an official visit. Otherwise a salute fired in honor of a foreign nation, or of a foreign official or officer, may be expected to be returned gun for gun.

### 1226. Restrictions on Gun Salutes.

1. In the presence of the President of the United States, or the president, sovereign or a member of the reigning royal family of a foreign nation, no gun salute which may be prescribed elsewhere in these regulations shall be fired to any other official of lesser rank of that nation.

2. When two or more officials or officers, each entitled to a gun salute, make an official visit in company to a ship or station, only the senior shall be saluted. If they arrive or depart at different times, each shall be rendered the gun salute to which he or she is entitled.

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3. Salutes shall not be fired in ports or locations where they are forbidden by local regulations.

4. No official or officer, United States or foreign, except those entitled to 17 or more guns, shall be saluted by the same ship or station more than once in twelve months, unless, and subject to the other provisions of these regulations, such official or officer has been advanced in grade, makes an official visit or inspection, or is on special duty in which international courtesy is involved or exceptional circumstances exist. In the latter case, the commanding officer, in the absence of instructions, shall exercise discretion.

5. No officer, except a flag or general officer, shall be saluted with guns except in return for a gun salute.

6. No officer of the armed services, while in civilian clothes, shall be saluted with guns, unless he or she is at the time acting in an official civil capacity.

7. No salute shall be fired between sunset and sunrise, before 0800 or on Sunday, except where international courtesy so dictates, or when related to death ceremonies. Subject to the provisions of this paragraph, a gun salute in honor of an official or officer who arrives before 0800 shall be fired at 0800. However, if the day is Sunday, the salute shall be fired on Monday. The salute shall not be fired if the official or officer has departed meanwhile. In case of a gun salute at 0800, the first gun of the salute shall be fired immediately upon the completion of morning colors or the last note of the last national anthem.

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## Section 5. Passing Honors

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#### 1227. "Passing Honors" and "Close Aboard" Defined.

"Passing honors" are those honors, other than gun salutes, rendered on occasions when ships or embarked officials or officers pass, or are passed, close aboard. "Close aboard" shall mean passing within six hundred yards for ships and four hundred yards for boats. These rules shall be interpreted liberally, to ensure that appropriate honors are rendered.

#### 1228. Passing Honors Between Ships.

1. Passing honors, consisting of sounding "Attention" and rendering the hand salute by all persons on view on deck and not in ranks, shall be exchanged between ships of the Navy and between ships of the Navy and the Coast Guard, passing close aboard.

2. In addition, the honors prescribed in Table 2 shall be rendered by a ship of the Navy passing close aboard a ship or naval station displaying the flag of the officials indicated therein and by naval stations, insofar as practicable, when a ship displaying such flag passes close aboard.

These honors shall be acknowledged by rendering the same honors in return.

#### 1229. Passing Honors to Officials and Officers Embarked in Boats.

1. The honors prescribed in Table 3 shall be rendered by a ship of the Navy being passed close aboard by a boat displaying the flag or pennant of the following officials and officers.

2. Persons on the quarter-deck shall salute when a boat passes close aboard in which a flag officer, a unit commander or a commanding officer is embarked as indicated by a display of a personal flag, command pennant, commission pennant or miniature thereof.

#### 1230. Passing Honors to Foreign Dignitaries and Warships.

1. The honors prescribed for the President of the United States shall be rendered by a ship of the Navy being passed close aboard by a ship or boat displaying the flag or standard of a foreign president, sovereign or member of a reigning royal family, except that the foreign national anthem shall be played in lieu of the national anthem of the United States.

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2. Passing honors shall be exchanged with foreign warships passed close aboard and shall consist of parading the guard of the day, sounding "Attention," rendering the salute by all persons in view on deck, and playing the foreign national anthem.

### 1231. Sequence in Rendering Passing Honors.

1. "Attention" shall be sounded by the junior when the bow of one ship passes the bow or stern of the other, or, if the senior is embarked in a boat, before the boat is abreast, or nearest to abreast, the quarter-deck.
2. The guard, if required, shall present arms, and all persons in view on deck shall salute.
3. The music, if required, shall sound off.
4. "Carry on" shall be sounded when the prescribed honors have been rendered and acknowledged.

### 1232. Dispensing With Passing Honors.

1. Passing honors shall not be rendered after sunset or before 0800 except when international courtesy requires.
2. Passing honors shall not be exchanged between ships of the Navy engaged in tactical evolutions outside port.

3. The senior officer present may direct that passing honors be dispensed with in whole or in part.

4. Passing honors shall not be rendered by nor required of ships with small bridge areas, such as submarines, particularly when in restricted waters.

### 1233. Crew at Quarters on Entering or Leaving Port.

1. The crew shall be paraded at quarters during daylight on entering or leaving port on occasions of ceremony except when weather or other circumstances make it impracticable or undesirable to do so. Occasions of ceremony include:

- a. visits that are not operational;
- b. at homeport when departing for or returning from a lengthy deployment;
- c. visits to foreign ports not visited recently; and
- d. other special occasions so determined by a superior.

2. In lieu of parading the entire crew at quarters, an honor guard may be paraded in a conspicuous place on weather decks.

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## Section 6. Official Visits and Calls

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### 1234. Definitions.

1. An official visit is a formal visit of courtesy requiring special honors and ceremonies.
2. A call is an informal visit of courtesy requiring no special ceremonies.

### 1235. Table of Honors for Official Visits of United States Officers.

Except as modified or dispensed with by these regulations, the honors prescribed in Table 4 shall be rendered by a ship or station on the occasion of the official visits of the United States officers listed therein (ashore, the single gun salute, when prescribed, shall be fired on arrival instead of on departure).

### 1236. Table of Honors for Official Visits of United States Civil Officials.

Except as modified or dispensed with by these regulations, the honors prescribed in Table 5 shall be rendered by a ship or station on the

occasion of the official visits of the following United States civil officials (ashore, the single gun salute, when prescribed, shall be fired on arrival instead of on departure).

### 1237. Table of Honors for Official Visits of Foreign Officials and Officers.

Except as modified or dispensed with by these regulations, the honors prescribed in Table 6 shall be rendered by a ship or station on the occasion of the official visits of the following foreign officials and officers (ashore, the single gun salute, when prescribed, shall be fired on arrival instead of on departure).

### 1238. Table of Precedence of Diplomatic and Consular Representatives.

A diplomatic representative in a country to which accredited, and a consular representative in a district to which assigned, takes precedence as set forth in Table 7.

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### 1239. Official Visits to the President and to Civil Officials of the Department of Defense.

When the President, the Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, an Under Secretary of Defense, an Assistant Secretary of Defense, the Under Secretary of the Navy, or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, away from the seat of government, arrives in the vicinity of a naval command, the senior officer present shall, if practicable and appropriate, pay such person an official visit. Such visit ordinarily is not returned.

### 1240. Official Visits and Calls Among Officers of the Naval Service.

1. An officer assuming command shall, at the first opportunity thereafter, make an official visit to the senior to whom he or she is reporting for duty in command, and to any successor of that senior; except that for shore commands a call shall be made in lieu of such official visit.

2. Unless dispensed with by the senior, calls shall be made:

a. By the commander of an arriving unit upon his or her immediate superior in the chain of command if present; and, when circumstances permit, upon the senior officer present.

b. By an officer in command upon an immediate superior in the chain of command upon the arrival of the latter.

c. By an officer who has been the senior officer present, upon his or her successor.

d. By the commander of a unit arriving at a naval base or station upon the commander of such base or station; except that when the former is senior, the latter shall make the call.

e. By an officer reporting for duty, upon the commanding officer.

3. When arrivals occur after 1600, or on Sunday, or on a holiday, the required calls may be postponed until the next working day.

### 1241. Official Visits or Calls Between Officers of the Naval Service and Other Armed Services.

When in the vicinity of a command of another armed service of the United States, the senior

officer present in the naval service shall arrange with the commander concerned for the exchange of official visits, or calls, as appropriate.

### 1242. Official Visits With United States Diplomatic and Consular Representatives.

1. Upon arrival in a foreign port where United States diplomatic or consular representatives accredited to that foreign government are present, the senior officer present shall, if time and circumstances permit, exchange official visits with both the senior diplomatic representative and the senior consular representative present. When practicable, prior notice of arrival in port, and the probable duration of stay, shall be given to such representatives. A suitable boat shall be furnished them for making official visits.

2. Officers of the naval service shall make the first visit to the chief of a diplomatic mission of or above the rank of *chargé d'affaires*.

3. In the exchange of visits with consular representatives, officers in the naval service shall make or receive the first official visit in accordance with their relative precedence with the consular representatives concerned, as set forth in the precedence table of this chapter.

### 1243. Official Visits With Governors of United States Territories, Commonwealths and Possessions.

1. At the seat of government of a United States territory, commonwealth or possession having a governor general or governor commissioned as such by the President, the senior officer present shall, within twenty-four hours after arrival or assuming command, make an official visit to the governor general, governor or, in the absence of that official, to the acting governor general or governor.

2. When the senior officer permanently established in command ashore in such territory, commonwealth or possession is not the senior officer present, such officer shall also make an official visit to the governor general or governor as soon as practicable after assuming command.

3. Similar visits shall be made whenever a governor general or governor assumes office.

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4. A flag or general officer may expect such visits to be returned in person by the official to whom it was made. Other officers may expect such visits to be returned by a suitable representative.

5. The provisions of this article shall apply in the case of an officer of the armed services commissioned as governor general or governor by the President, regardless of such officer's naval or military rank.

6. Modifications of the provisions of this article may be effected upon agreement with the governor general or governor.

### 1244. Official Visits With Foreign Officials and Officers.

1. The senior officer present shall make official visits to foreign officials and officers as custom and courtesy demand.

2. When in doubt as to what foreign officials and officers are to be visited, saluted or otherwise honored, or as to the rank of any official or officer, or whether a gun salute involving a return will be returned, the senior officer present shall send an officer to obtain the required information.

3. When exchanging official visits with a foreign officer who occupies a position comparable to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force or Commandant of the Marine Corps, the rank of the foreign officer shall be considered equivalent to these United States officers and the first official visit shall be made accordingly.

4. The following rules, in which the maritime powers generally have concurred, shall be observed by officers of the naval service, and their observance by foreign officers may be expected:

a. The senior officer present shall, upon the arrival of foreign warships, send an officer to call upon the officer in command of the arriving ships to offer customary courtesies and exchange information as appropriate, except that in a foreign port such calls shall be made only if the officer in command of the arriving ships is the senior officer present afloat of his or her nation. This call will be returned at once.

b. Within twenty-four hours after arrival, the senior officer in command of arriving ships shall, if the senior officer present of his or her nation, make an official visit to the senior officer present of each foreign nation who holds an equal or superior grade, and the senior officer present of each foreign nation who holds a junior grade will make an official visit to the senior officer in command of the arriving ships within the same time limit.

c. After the interchange of visits between the senior officer specified above, other flag officers in command and the commanding officers of ships arriving shall exchange official visits, when appropriate, with the flag and commanding officers of ships present. An arriving officer shall make the first visits to officers present who hold equal or superior grades, and shall receive the first visits from others.

d. It is customary for calls to be exchanged by committees of wardroom officers of the ships of different nations present, in the order in which their respective commanding officers have exchanged visits.

e. Should another officer become the senior officer present of a nation, he or she shall exchange official visits with foreign senior officers present as prescribed in this article.

### 1245. Uniform for Official Visits.

Unless otherwise prescribed by the senior concerned:

a. A junior making an official visit shall wear the uniform prescribed in the tables of this chapter opposite the grade of the senior to whom the visit is made.

b. A senior returning an official visit shall wear the uniform corresponding to that which the junior has worn.

c. An officer receiving an official visit, and all participants in the reception, including the crew if paraded, shall wear the uniform prescribed in the tables of this chapter opposite the grade of the official or officer from whom the visit is received.

d. Boat crews shall wear the uniform corresponding to that worn by the senior officer embarked.

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### 1246. Honors on Departure for, or Return From, an Official Visit.

An officer leaving or returning to his or her flagship or command upon the occasion of an official visit shall be rendered the honors prescribed for an official visit except that, aboard the officer's flagship, the uniform of the day normally shall be worn and gun salutes shall not be fired.

### 1247. Procedure for Official Visits.

1. The honors prescribed for an official visit shall be rendered on arrival as follows:

a. When the rail is manned, personnel shall be uniformly spaced at the rail on each weather deck, facing outboard.

b. "Attention" shall be sounded as the visitor's boat or vehicle approaches the ship.

c. If a gun salute is prescribed on arrival, it shall be fired as the visitor approaches and is still clear of the side. The prescribed flag or pennant shall be broken on the visited ship on the first gun and hauled down on the last gun except where prescribed in the Table of Honors for the duration of the visit. Other ships firing a concurrent salute shall, on the last gun, haul down the flag or pennant displayed in honor of the visitor. If the ship being visited is moored to a pier in such a position that it is not practicable to render the gun salute prior to the arrival on board, the salute shall be rendered, provided local regulations do not forbid gun salutes, after the official has arrived on board and the commanding officer has assured him- or herself that the official and the official party are moved to a position in the ship that is well clear of the saluting battery.

d. The boat or vehicle shall be piped as it comes alongside.

e. The visitor shall be piped over the side, and all persons on the quarter-deck shall salute and the guard shall present arms until the termination of the pipe flourishes, music or gun salute, whichever shall be the last rendered. If the gun salute is not prescribed on arrival and a flag or pennant is to be displayed during the visit, it shall be broken at the start of the pipe.

f. The piping of the side, the ruffles and flourishes, and the music shall be rendered in the order named. In the absence of a band, "To

the Colors" shall be sounded by bugle in lieu of the National Anthem, when required.

g. The visitor, if entitled to 11 guns or more, shall be invited to inspect the guard upon completion of such honors as may be rendered.

2. The honors prescribed for an official visit shall be rendered on departure as follows:

a. The rail shall be manned, if required.

b. "Attention" shall be sounded as the visitor arrives on the quarter-deck.

c. At the end of leavetaking, the guard shall present arms, all persons on the quarter-deck shall salute and the ruffles and flourishes, followed by the music, shall be rendered. As the visitor enters the line of side boys, he or she shall be piped over the side. The salute and present arms shall terminate with the pipe; and, unless a gun salute is to be fired, a flag or pennant displayed in honor of the visitor shall be hauled down.

d. The boat or vehicle shall be piped away from the side.

e. If a gun salute is prescribed on departure, it shall be fired when the visitor is clear of the side and the flag or pennant displayed in honor of the visitor shall be hauled down with the last gun of the salute.

3. The same honors and ceremonies as for an official visit to a ship of the Navy shall be rendered, insofar as practicable and appropriate, on the occasion of an official visit to a naval station except that manning the rail, piping the side, and parading side boys are not considered appropriate. When, in the opinion of the senior officer present, such honors will serve a definite purpose, they may be rendered.

### 1248. Returning Official Visits and Calls.

1. An official visit shall be returned within twenty-four hours, when practicable.

2. A flag or general officer shall, circumstances permitting, return the official visits of officers of the grade of captain in the Navy or senior thereto, and to officials of corresponding grade. His or her chief of staff may be sent to return other official visits.

3. Officers other than flag or general officers shall personally return all official visits.

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4. Flag and general officers may expect official visits to be returned in person by foreign governors, officers, and other high officials except chiefs of state. Other officers may expect such visits to be returned by suitable representatives.

5. Calls made by juniors upon seniors in the naval service shall be returned as courtesy requires and circumstances permit; calls made by persons not in the naval service shall be returned.

### 1249. Side Honors.

1. On the arrival and departure of civil officials and foreign officers, and of United States officers when so directed by the senior officer present, the side shall be piped and the appropriate number of side boys paraded.

2. Officers appropriate to the occasion shall attend the side on the arrival and departure of officials and officers.

### 1250. Dispensing With Side Boys and Guard and Band.

1. Side boys shall not be paraded on Sunday, or on other days between sunset and 0800, or during meal hours of the crew, general drills and

evolutions, and periods of regular overhaul, except in honor of civil officials or foreign officers, when they may be paraded at any time during daylight. Side boys shall be paraded only for scheduled visits.

2. Except for official visits and other formal occasions, sideboys shall not be paraded in honor of officers of the armed services of the United States, unless otherwise directed by the senior officer present.

3. Side boys shall not be paraded in honor of an officer of the armed services in civilian clothes, unless he or she is at the time acting in an official civil capacity.

4. The side shall be piped when side boys are paraded, but not at other times.

5. The guard and band shall not be paraded in honor of the arrival or departure of an individual at times when side boys in his or her honor are dispensed with except at naval shore installations.

### 1251. Uniform for Members of the Marine Corps.

Members of the Marine Corps will wear dress uniform when full dress is prescribed for naval personnel.

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## Chapter 12

# FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS

## Section 7. Formal Occasions Other Than Official Visits

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#### **1252. Honors to an Official Entitled to 19 or More Guns.**

An official or officer entitled to a salute of 19 or more guns shall receive the honors for an official visit, subject to the regulations pertaining to gun salutes, on the occasion of every visit.

#### **1253. Honors for a Flag or General Officer, or Unit Commander, Assuming or Relieving Command.**

1. On the occasion of a flag or general officer or unit commander assuming command, and on the departure of such officer after being relieved, honors shall be rendered as for an official visit, subject to the regulations pertaining to gun salutes.

2. A flag officer or unit commander assuming command shall read his or her orders to the assembled officers and crew, immediately after which his or her flag or command pennant shall be broken, and a gun salute, if required by these regulations, shall be fired.

3. Under the conditions described in the preceding paragraph, an officer being relieved shall read his or her orders to the assembled officers and crew, and on completion thereof, or after the gun salute, if fired, his or her flag or command pennant shall be hauled down. The officer succeeding to command shall then read his or her orders, and on the completion thereof, his or her flag or command pennant shall be

broken. Aboard ship, the commission pennant shall be displayed while no personal flag or command pennant is flying.

#### **1254. Honors at Official Inspection.**

1. When a flag officer or unit commander boards a ship of the Navy to make an official inspection, honors shall be rendered as for an official visit, except that the uniform shall be as prescribed by the inspecting officer. The inspecting officer's flag or command pennant shall be broken upon arrival, unless otherwise prescribed by these regulations, and shall be hauled down on departure of the inspecting officer.

2. The provisions of this article shall apply, insofar as practicable and appropriate, when a flag or general officer, in command ashore, makes an official inspection of a unit of the command.

#### **1255. Honors for a Civil Official Taking Passage.**

When a civil official of the United States takes passage officially in a ship of the Navy, he or she shall, on embarking and disembarking, be rendered honors as prescribed for an official visit. In addition, if entitled to a gun salute, the official shall be rendered the salute upon disembarkation in a port of the foreign nation to which he or she is accredited.

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### 1256. Quarter-Deck.

The commanding officer of a ship shall establish the limits of the quarter-deck and the restrictions as to its use. The quarter-deck shall embrace so much of the main or other appropriate deck as may be necessary for the proper conduct of official and ceremonial functions.

### 1257. Musical Honors to the President of the United States.

1. If, in the course of any ceremony, it is required that honors involving musical tribute

to the President of the United States be performed more than one time, "Hail to the Chief" may be used interchangeably with the National Anthem as honors to the President of the United States.

2. When specified by the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Chief of the Secret Service, or their authorized representatives, "Hail to the Chief" may be used as an opportunity for the President and immediate party to move to or from their places while all others stand fast.

## Chapter 12

# FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS

## Section 8. Display of Flags and Pennants

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### 1258. Authorized Display of Flags and Pennants.

1. When the national ensign is displayed on occasions other than those prescribed in these regulations, the manner of display shall be as prescribed in Navy Department publications.
2. No flags or pennants, other than as prescribed by these regulations or as may be directed by the Secretary of the Navy, shall be displayed from a ship or craft of the Navy, or from a naval station, as an honor to a nation, state or an individual or to indicate the presence of any individual.
3. All flags and pennants displayed in accordance with these regulations shall conform to the pattern prescribed in Navy Department publication.

4. Flags or pennants of officers not eligible for command at sea shall not be displayed from ships of the United States Navy.

### 1259. Display of National Ensign, Union Jack and Distinctive Mark From Ships and Craft.

1. The national ensign, union jack, personal flag or pennant, or commission pennant shall be displayed from ships and craft of the Navy as specified in table 8.
2. The distinctive mark of a ship or craft of the Navy in commission shall be a personal flag or command pennant of an officer of the Navy, or a commission pennant. The distinctive mark of a hospital ship of the Navy, in commission, shall be the Red Cross flag.

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a. Not more than one distinctive mark shall be displayed by a ship or craft at any one time, nor shall the commission pennant and the personal flag of a civil official be displayed at one time.

b. Except as prescribed by these regulations for certain occasions of ceremony and when civil officials are embarked, the distinctive mark shall be displayed day and night at the after masthead or, in a mastless ship, from the loftiest and most conspicuous hoist.

3. When not underway, the national ensign and the union jack shall be displayed from 0800 until sunset from the flagstaff and the jack staff, respectively. A ship which enters port at night shall, when appropriate, display the national ensign from the gaff at daylight for a time sufficient to establish her nationality; it is customary for other ships of war to display their national ensigns in return.

4. The national ensign shall be displayed during daylight from the gaff (or from the triatic stay in the case of those ships with mast-mounted booms and stays which would interfere with the hoisting, lowering or flying of the ensign) of a ship under way under the following circumstances, unless or as otherwise directed by the senior officer present:

- a. Getting underway and coming to anchor.
- b. Falling in with other ships.
- c. Cruising near land.
- d. During battle.

5. The union jack displayed from the jack staff shall be the size of the union of the national ensign displayed from the flagstaff.

6. The union jack shall be displayed at a yardarm to denote that a general court-martial or court of inquiry is in session.

### 1260. National Ensign at Commands Ashore.

The national ensign shall be displayed from 0800 to sunset near the headquarters of every command ashore, or at the headquarters of the senior when the proximity of headquarters of two or more commands makes the display of separate ensigns inappropriate. When an outlying activity of the command is so located that its governmental character is not clearly

indicated by the display of the national ensign as prescribed above, the national ensign shall also be displayed at that activity.

### 1261. Display of National Ensign During Gun Salute.

1. A ship of the Navy shall display the national ensign at a masthead while firing a salute in honor of a United States national anniversary or officials, as follows:

a. At the main during the national salute prescribed for the third Monday in February and the Fourth of July.

b. At the main during a 21-gun salute to a United States civil official, except by a ship displaying the personal flag of the official being saluted.

c. At the fore during a salute to any other United States civil official, except by a ship which is displaying the personal flag of the official being saluted.

2. During a gun salute, the national ensign shall remain displayed from the gaff or the flagstaff, in addition to the display of the national ensign prescribed in this article.

### 1262. Display of National Ensign in Boats.

The national ensign shall be displayed from waterborne boats of the naval service:

a. When underway during daylight in a foreign port.

b. When ships are required to be dressed or full-dressed.

c. When going alongside a foreign vessel.

d. When an officer or official is embarked on an official occasion.

e. When a flag or general officer, a unit commander, a commanding officer or a chief of staff, in uniform, is embarked in a boat of the command or in one assigned to the personal use of such an officer.

f. At such other times as may be prescribed by the senior officer present.

### 1263. Dipping the National Ensign.

1. When any vessel, under United States registry or the registry of a nation formally recognized by the Government of the United

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States, salutes a ship of the Navy by dipping her ensign, it shall be answered dip for dip. If not already being displayed, the national ensign shall be hoisted for the purpose of answering the dip. An ensign being displayed at half-mast shall be hoisted to the truck or peak before a dip is answered.

2. No ship of the Navy shall dip the national ensign unless in return for such compliment.

3. Of the colors carried by a naval force on shore, only the battalion or regimental colors shall be dipped in rendering or acknowledging a salute.

4. Submarines, or other ships of the line in which it would be considered hazardous for personnel to do so, shall not be required to dip the ensign.

### 1264. Half-Masting the National Ensign and Union Jack.

1. In half-masting the national ensign, it shall, if not previously hoisted, first be hoisted to the truck or peak and then lowered to half-mast. Before lowering from half-mast, the ensign shall be hoisted to the truck or peak and then lowered.

2. When the national ensign is half-masted, the union jack, if displayed from the jack staff, shall likewise be half-masted.

3. Personal flags, command pennants and commission pennants shall not be displayed at half-mast except as prescribed in these regulations for a deceased official or officer.

4. When directed by the President, the national ensign shall be flown at half-mast at military facilities and naval vessels and stations abroad whether or not the national ensign of another nation is flown full-mast alongside that of the United States.

### 1265. Following Motions of Senior Officer Present in Hoisting and Lowering the National Ensign.

1. On board ship or a command ashore, upon all occasions of hoisting, lowering or half-masting the national ensign, the motions of the senior officer present shall be followed, except as prescribed for answering a dip or firing a gun salute.

2. A ship displaying the flag of the President, Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of

Defense, Secretary of the Navy, Under Secretary of Defense, an Assistant Secretary of Defense, Under Secretary of the Navy, or an Assistant Secretary of the Navy shall be regarded as the ship of the senior officer within the meaning of this article.

### 1266. Personal Flags and Pennants Afloat.

1. Except as otherwise prescribed in these regulations, a flag officer or unit commander afloat shall display his or her personal flag or command pennant from his or her flagship. At no time shall he or she display the personal flag or command pennant from more than one ship.

2. When a flag officer eligible for command at sea is embarked for passage in a ship of the Navy, his or her personal flag shall be displayed from such ship, unless there is already displayed from such ship the flag of an officer senior to such officer.

3. When a civil official, in whose honor the display of a personal flag is prescribed during an official visit, is embarked for passage in a ship of the Navy, his or her personal flag shall be displayed from such ship.

4. A personal flag or command pennant may be hauled down during battle or at any time when the officer concerned, or the senior officer present, considers it advisable thus to render a flagship less distinguishable. When hauled down, it shall be replaced with a commission pennant.

5. An officer of the Navy commanding a ship engaged otherwise than in the service of the United States shall not display a personal flag, command pennant or commission pennant from such ship, or in the bow of a boat.

6. A ship underway shall not display a personal flag or command pennant unless a flag officer or unit commander is aboard. Should a flagship get underway during the absence of the flag officer or unit commander, the personal flag or command pennant shall be hauled down and replaced with a commission pennant.

### 1267. Broad or Burgee Command Pennant.

1. The broad or burgee command pennant shall be the personal command pennant of an officer of

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the Navy, not a flag officer, commanding a unit of ships or aircraft.

2. The broad command pennant shall indicate command of:

a. a force, group or squadron of ships of any type; or

b. An aircraft wing or carrier air wing.

3. The burgee command pennant shall indicate command of:

a. A division of ships or craft.

b. A major subdivision of an aircraft wing.

### 1268. Display of More Than One Personal Flag or Pennant Aboard Ship.

1. When the personal flag of a civil official is displayed aboard a ship of the Navy, a personal flag or command pennant of an officer of the Navy shall be displayed, if required, as follows:

a. Aboard a single-masted ship, at the starboard yardarm.

b. Aboard a two-masted ship, at the fore truck.

c. Aboard a ship with more than two masts, at the after truck.

2. When, in accordance with these regulations, the personal flag of a civil official and the personal flag or command pennant of an officer of the Navy are displayed at the starboard yardarm, the personal flag of the civil official shall be displayed outboard.

3. When two or more civil officials, for each of whom the display of a personal flag is prescribed, are embarked in the same ship of the Navy, the flag of the senior only shall be displayed.

### 1269. Display of a Personal Flag or Command Pennant When a National Ensign is at Masthead.

1. The President's flag, if displayed at a masthead where a national ensign is required to be displayed during an official visit, or during periods of dressing or full-dressing ship, shall remain at that masthead to port of the United States national ensign and to starboard of a foreign national ensign.

2. Except as provided above, a personal flag or command pennant shall not be displayed at the same masthead with a national ensign, but shall:

a. During a gun salute, be lowered clear of the ensign.

b. During an official visit, be shifted to the starboard yardarm in a single-masted ship and to the fore truck in a two-masted ship.

c. During periods of dressing or full-dressing ship:

(1) If displayed from the fore truck or from the masthead of a single-masted ship, be shifted to the starboard yardarm.

(2) If displayed from the main truck, be shifted to the foretruck in lieu of the national ensign at that mast.

(3) If displayed from the after truck of a ship with more than two masts, remain at the after truck in lieu of the national ensign at that mast.

### 1270. Personal Flags and Pennants Ashore.

1. A flag or general officer ashore shall display his or her personal flag day and night at a suitable and conspicuous place within his or her command. When such an officer makes an official inspection at an outlying activity of the command, his or her flag shall, if practicable and appropriate, be shifted to such outlying activity.

2. A flag or general officer or unit commander of the operating forces whose headquarters are ashore shall display his or her personal flag or pennant day and night at a suitable and conspicuous place at his or her headquarters, unless it is displayed from a ship of the officer's command.

3. When the points for display of two or more personal flags ashore are in such close proximity as to make their separate display inappropriate, that of the senior officer present only shall be displayed.

4. When a personal flag or a foreign ensign is required to be displayed ashore during the official visit of, or a gun salute to, a civil official or foreign officer, it shall be displayed from the normal point of display of a personal flag or pennant of the officer in command, and thr

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latter's flag or pennant shall be displayed at some other point within the command.

5. During the official inspection by a flag or general officer of a unit of his or her command ashore, such officer's personal flag shall displace a personal flag or pennant of the officer in command.

6. If two or more civil officials, for each of whom the display of a personal flag is prescribed, are present officially at a command ashore at the same time, the flag of the senior only shall be displayed.

### 1271. Personal Flag or Command Pennant, When Officer Temporarily Succeeded in Command.

1. When a flag or general officer or unit commander has been succeeded temporarily in command, as prescribed in these regulations, his or her personal flag or command pennant shall be hauled down. The officer who has succeeded temporarily to the command shall display the personal flag or command pennant to which he or she is entitled by these regulations.

2. In a foreign port upon the occasion of the absence of a flag officer from the command for a period exceeding 72 hours, the command, subject to any directions from the flag officer, shall devolve on the senior officer present of the unit who is eligible for the exercise of command at sea, but as standard procedure, the absent flag officer's flag shall continue to be flown in his or her regular flagship until that ship is underway, at which time the personal flag shall be hauled down and not again hoisted until the absent flag officer returns to his or her flagship. Commanders in chief and fleet commanders have authority to modify the procedure with respect to their personal flags as the exigencies of the services require.

### 1272. Absence Indicators.

In ships, the absence of an official or officer whose personal flag or pennant is displayed, a chief of staff, or a commanding officer shall be indicated from sunrise to sunset by the display of

an absence indicator as prescribed in current instructions.

### 1273. Personal Flags and Pennants of Officers in Boats, Automobiles and Aircraft.

1. An officer in command, or a chief of staff when acting for him or her, when embarked in a boat of the naval service on official occasions, shall display from the bow the appropriate personal flag or command pennant or, if he or she is not entitled to either, a commission pennant.

2. An officer entitled to the display of a personal flag, command pennant or commission pennant may display a miniature of such flag or pennant in the vicinity of the coxswain's station when embarked on other than official occasions in a boat of the naval service.

3. An officer entitled to the display of a personal flag or command pennant may, when riding in an automobile on an official occasion, display such flag or pennant forward on such vehicle.

4. An officer entitled to the display of a personal flag or command pennant may, when embarked in an aircraft on an official occasion, display such flag or pennant on both sides just forward of and below the cockpit of such aircraft at rest.

### 1274. Flags of Civil Officials in Boats, Automobiles and Aircraft.

A flag shall be displayed in the bow of a boat in the naval service whenever a United States civil official is embarked on an official occasion, as follows:

a. A union jack for:

(1) A diplomatic representative of or above the rank of chargé d'affaires, within the waters of the country to which accredited.

(2) A governor general or governor commissioned as such by the President, within the area of his or her jurisdiction.

b. The consular flag for a consular representative.

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c. The prescribed personal flag for other civil officials when they are entitled to the display of a personal flag during an official visit.

d. A civil official entitled to the display of a personal flag may, when riding in an automobile on an official occasion, display such flag forward on such vehicle.

e. A civil official entitled to the display of a personal flag may, when embarked in an aircraft, display a miniature of such flag on both sides just forward of and below the cockpit of such aircraft at rest.

### 1275. Bow Insignia and Flagstaff Insignia for Boats.

1. Boats regularly assigned to officers for their personal use shall carry insignia on each bow as follows:

a. For a flag or general officer, the stars as arranged in his or her flag.

b. For a unit commander not a flag officer, a replica of his or her command pennant.

c. For a commanding officer, or a chief of staff not a flag officer, an arrow.

2. Staffs for the ensign, and for the personal flag or pennant in a boat assigned to the personal use of a flag or general officer, unit commander, chief of staff or commanding officer, or in which a civil official is embarked, shall be fitted at the peak with devices as follows:

a. A spread eagle for an official or officer whose official salute is 19 or more guns.

b. A halberd:

(1) For a flag or general officer whose official salute is less than 19 guns.

(2) For a civil official whose official salute is 11 or more guns but less than 19 guns.

c. A ball:

(1) For an officer of the grade, or relative grade, of captain in the Navy.

(2) For a career minister, a counselor or first secretary of embassy or legation, or a consul.

d. A star: For an officer of the grade, or relative grade, of commander in the Navy.

e. A flat truck:

(1) For an officer below the grade, or relative grade, of commander in the Navy.

(2) For a civil official not listed above, and for whom honors are prescribed for an official visit.

### 1276. Display of Foreign National Ensign During Gun Salute.

1. While firing a salute to the nation upon entering a foreign port, returning such salute fired by a foreign warship, or firing a salute on the occasion of a foreign national anniversary, celebration or solemnity, a ship shall display the ensign of the foreign nation at the main truck.

2. While firing a salute to a foreign dignitary or official entitled to 21 guns, a ship shall display the national ensign of such dignitary or official at the main truck. While firing a salute to a foreign official entitled to less than 21 guns, or to a foreign officer, or when returning a salute fired by a foreign officer, the national ensign of the foreign official or officer shall be displayed at the fore truck.

3. At a naval station, under the circumstances set forth in the preceding paragraphs of this article, the appropriate foreign ensign shall be displayed from the normal point of display of the personal flag or pennant of the officer in command, and the latter's flag or pennant shall be displayed at some other point within the command.

### 1277. Display of National Ensigns of Two or More Nations.

1. When the national ensigns of two or more nations are required to be displayed from the same masthead, the United States national ensign, if required, shall be displayed to starboard of all others. The national ensigns of other nations shall be displayed, starboard to port, in the alphabetical order of the names of the nations in the English language; except that the ensign of a foreign nation within whose waters the ship is located, if displayed, shall be to starboard of other foreign ensigns.

2. While a salute is being fired under the foregoing conditions, the ensign of the nation being honored, or whose dignitary is being honored, shall be displayed alone.

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3. In rendering honors, the national ensign of one nation shall not be displayed above that of another nation at the same masthead.

### 1278. Choice of Foreign Flag or Ensign in Rendering Honors.

In rendering honors requiring the display of a foreign flag or ensign:

a. In the case of a government having both a national flag and a national ensign (man-of-war flag), the national ensign shall be displayed except under the conditions set forth in this article.

b. In the case of a commonwealth, dominion or similar government recognized as independent by the Government of the United States, which has a national flag of its own but which also employs the national ensign (man-of-war flag) of the empire or federation to which it belongs, the national flag of the commonwealth or dominion shall be displayed except when rendering honors to naval officers; in which latter case the national ensign (man-of-war flag) shall be displayed.

c. In the case of a government not recognized as independent by the Government of the United States, such as a protectorate or colony, the flag of the government exercising protective or colonial power shall be displayed except when otherwise directed by the Secretary of the Navy.

d. In the case of a government carried on by a joint mandate or trusteeship and having no distinct national flag of its own, the flags of the several countries comprising the mandate shall be displayed when rendering honors.

### 1279. Dressing and Full-Dressing Ships.

1. On occasions of dressing ship the largest national ensign with which the ship is furnished shall be displayed from the flagstaff and, except as prescribed for a ship displaying a personal flag or command pennant, a national ensign shall be displayed from each masthead. The national ensigns displayed at the masthead shall be of uniform size, except when, due to a substantial difference in heights of masthead, a

difference in the size of national ensigns is appropriate.

2. On occasions of full-dressing ship, in addition to the dressing of the mastheads, a rainbow of signal flags, arranged in the order prescribed in Navy Department publications, shall be displayed, reaching from the foot of the jackstaff to the mastheads and thence to the foot of the flagstaff. Peculiarly masted or mastless ships shall make a display as little modified from the rainbow effect as is practicable.

3. When dressing or full-dressing ship in honor of a foreign nation, the national ensign of that nation shall replace the United States national ensign at the main, or at the masthead in the case of a single-masted ship; provided that when a ship is full-dressed or dressed in honor of more than one nation, the ensign of each such nation shall be displayed at the main, or at the masthead in a single-masted ship.

4. Should half-masting of the national ensign be required on occasions of dressing or full-dressing ship, only the national ensign at the flagstaff shall be half-masted.

5. When full-dressing is prescribed, the senior officer present may direct that dressing be substituted if, in his or her opinion, the state of the weather makes such action advisable. The senior officer present may, also, under such circumstances, direct that the ensigns be hauled down from the mastheads after being hoisted.

6. Ships not under way shall be dressed or full-dressed from 0800 until sunset. Ships under way shall not be dressed or full-dressed.

### 1280. Senior Officer Afloat Pennant.

If two or more ships of the Navy are together in port, the senior officer present afloat pennant shall be displayed from the ship in which the senior officer present afloat is embarked, except when his or her personal flag clearly indicates his or her seniority. The pennant shall be displayed from the inboard halyard of the starboard main yardarm.

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## Chapter 12

# FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS

## Section 9. Special Ceremonies, Anniversaries and Solemnities

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#### 1281. Ships Passing Washington's Tomb.

When a ship of the Navy is passing Washington's tomb, Mount Vernon, Virginia, between sunrise and sunset, the following ceremonies shall be observed insofar as may be practicable:

- a. The full guard and band shall be paraded, the bell tolled, and the national ensign half-masted at the beginning of the tolling of the bell.
- b. When opposite Washington's tomb, the guard shall present arms, persons on deck shall salute, facing in the direction of the tomb, and "Taps" shall be sounded.
- c. The national ensign shall be hoisted to the truck or peak and the tolling shall cease at the last note of "Taps," after which the National Anthem shall be played.
- d. Upon completion of the National Anthem, "Carry on" shall be sounded.

#### 1282. Ships Passing U.S.S. ARIZONA Memorial.

When a ship of the Navy is passing the USS ARIZONA Memorial, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii,

between sunrise and sunset, passing honors consisting of sounding "Attention" and rendering the hand salute by all persons in view on deck and not in ranks shall be executed by that ship.

#### 1283. National Holidays.

1. The following shall be observed as holidays on board ships of the Navy and at naval stations and activities: New Year's Day, the 1st of January; Martin Luther King Day, the third Monday in January; President's Day, the third Monday in February; Memorial Day, the last Monday in May; Independence Day, the 4th of July; Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Columbus Day, the second Monday in October; Veterans Day, the 11th of November; Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November; Christmas Day, the 25th of December; and such other days as may be designated by the President.
2. Whenever any of the above-designated dates falls on Saturday, the preceding day shall be observed as a holiday, and whenever such date falls on Sunday, the following day shall be observed.

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### 1284. Ceremonies for National Holidays.

1. On President's Day and on Independence Day, every ship of the Navy in commission, not under way, shall full-dress ship. At noon each saluting ship, and each naval station equipped with a saluting battery, shall fire a national salute of 21 guns.

2. On Memorial Day, each saluting ship and each naval station having a saluting battery shall fire at noon a salute of 21 minute-guns. All ships and naval stations shall display the national ensign at half-mast from 0800 until the completion of the salute or until 1220 if no salute is fired or to be fired.

3. When the 4th of July occurs on Sunday, all special ceremonies shall be postponed until the following day.

### 1285. Foreign Participation in United States National Anniversaries and Solemnities.

1. Prior to celebrating a United States national anniversary, or observing a national solemnity, in a foreign place or in the presence of foreign warships, the senior officer present of the United States naval service shall give due notice to the foreign port authorities, and to the senior officer of each nationality present, of the time and manner of conducting the celebration or solemnity, and shall, as appropriate, invite their participation therein. An officer shall be sent to thank the foreign authorities or ships which participate in such celebration or solemnity.

2. When foreign troops participate in parades within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, they shall be assigned a position of honor ahead of United States troops, except that a small detachment of United States troops will immediately precede the foreign troops as a guard of honor.

3. On occasions when troops of two or more foreign nations participate, the troops of the nation in whose honor the parade is held will be assigned a position ahead of all others, otherwise the order of precedence among foreign troops will be determined, as appropriate, by:

a. The relative ranks of the commanders of the forces from which the parade detachments are drawn; or

b. The relative ranks of the commanders of the parade detachments; or

c. The alphabetical order in the English language of the names of the nations concerned.

### 1286. Observance of Foreign Anniversaries and Solemnities.

1. In a foreign place, or when in company with a foreign warship, when a national anniversary or solemnity is being observed by foreign port authorities or a foreign warship, a ship of the Navy shall, upon official invitation, follow the example of the foreign authority or warship in full-dressing or dressing ship, firing salutes, and half-masting ensigns. Salutes shall not exceed 21 guns unless the senior officer present deems it proper to fire a larger number in order to participate properly in the ceremony or to avoid giving offense. Upon all such occasions, efforts shall be made to accord, so far as practicable, with the foreign authorities in the time and manner of conducting the ceremonies.

2. Uniform accoutrements of mourning, including mourning badges or bands, may be worn on the uniform when appropriate, or when directed by competent authority, by persons in the naval service who are stationed in, or who are officially visiting, a foreign nation during the period the foreign government ordains as the period of national mourning.

## Chapter 12

# FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS

## Section 10. Deaths and Funerals

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#### **1287. Death of a United States Civil Official.**

1. Upon the death of a United States civil official listed below, the ceremonies set forth in Table 9 shall be observed.

2. When the day after receipt of notice of death falls upon a Sunday or national holiday, gun salutes will be fired on the day following Sunday or a national holiday.

3. The national ensign shall be half-masted upon receipt of notification from any reliable source, including news media, of the death of one of the designated civil officials.

#### **1288. Death of a Person in the Military Service.**

1. Upon the death of a person in the military service, the ceremonies set forth in Table 10 shall be observed.

2. At joint installations or commands the procedures prescribed by the responsible military commanders or the executive agent will be executed uniformly by all the United States military units present.

3. The national ensign shall be half-masted upon receipt of notification from any reliable source, including news media, of the death of one of the designated officials.

4. If the senior officer present deems it appropriate, such officer may direct that the ceremonies prescribed in this article be observed during the transfer of the body of the deceased from the ship or naval station, rather than during the funeral.

5. In the event of a military funeral of a person in the naval service on the retired list, ceremonies as prescribed in this article shall be rendered insofar as may be practicable.

6. On the occasion of conducting the funeral of a person in the naval service near posts, stations, or ships of other armed services of the United States, or of the Coast Guard, the commanding officers thereof shall be duly notified of the time and the honors to be rendered by ships of the Navy or by naval stations.

7. During the funeral of a flag officer of the Coast Guard or a general officer of the armed services of the United States, other than naval, and other than those listed in paragraph 1 of this article, at a place where there is a naval station, or where one or more ships of the Navy are present, the ensigns of such stations and ships shall be half-masted during the funeral service and for one hour thereafter; and minute-guns, of the number prescribed for the funeral of the deceased by the regulations of the service of which he or she was a member, shall be fired by the naval station, if practicable, and by the senior saluting ship present.

## FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS

### 1289. General Provisions Pertaining to Funerals.

1. If there is no chaplain or clergyman available, the commanding officer, or a designated representative, shall conduct the funeral service.

2. There shall be six pallbearers and six body bearers. The pallbearers shall, if practicable, be of the same grade or rating as the deceased. If a sufficient number of foreign officers of appropriate grade attend the funeral, they may be invited to serve as additional pallbearers. Pallbearers and bodybearers shall follow the procedure prescribed in the Landing Party Manual, U.S. Navy.

3. The wearing of the mourning badge is discretionary for those in attendance at a funeral and shall be worn by the escort for a military funeral as prescribed in the appropriate uniform regulations.

4. Boats taking part in a funeral procession shall display the national ensign at half-mast. If the deceased was a flag or general officer, or at the time of death a unit commander, or a commanding officer of a ship, his or her flag or command pennant, or a commission pennant, shall be draped in mourning and displayed at half-mast from a staff in the bow of the boat carrying the body. A funeral procession of boats shall, in general, be formed in the order prescribed in the Landing Party Manual, U.S. Navy, for a funeral procession on shore.

5. The casket shall be covered with the national ensign, so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder of the deceased. The ensign shall be removed from the casket before it is lowered into the grave or committed to the deep.

6. Persons in the naval service shall salute when the body has been carried past them, while the body is being lowered into the grave or committed to the deep, and during the firing of volleys and the sounding of "Taps."

7. Three rifle volleys shall be fired after the body has been lowered into the grave or

committed to the deep, following which "Taps" shall be sounded by the bugle; except that in a foreign port, when permission has not been obtained to land an armed escort, the volleys shall be fired over the body after it has been lowered into the boat alongside.

8. During burial at sea, the ship shall be stopped, if practicable, and the ensign shall be displayed at half-mast from the beginning of the funeral service until the body has been committed to the deep. Further display of the ensign at half-mast may be prescribed according to circumstances by the senior officer present.

9. Funeral honors shall not be rendered between sunset and sunrise. When it is necessary to bury the dead at night, such funeral services as are practicable shall take place.

### 1290. Funeral Escorts.

1. An escort under arms shall, when practicable, accompany the funeral cortege to the place of interment, and shall follow the procedure prescribed in the Landing Party Manual, U.S. Navy.

2. The funeral escort for a President, Vice President, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, Under Secretary of the Navy, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Fleet Admiral, Chief of Naval Operations, or Commandant of the Marine Corps shall be as prescribed by the Secretary of the Navy.

3. Unless otherwise prescribed by the senior officer present, the funeral escort for other persons in the Navy or the Marine Corps shall be as set forth in table 11.

### 1291. Display of Personal Flag, Command Pennant or Commission Pennant in Funerals Ashore.

If the deceased was a flag or general officer, or at the time of his or her death, a unit commander or commanding officer of a ship, the appropriate personal flag or command pennant, or commission pennant, shall be draped in mourning and carried immediately in advance of the body in the funeral procession to the grave.

## FLAGS, PENNANTS, HONORS, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS

### 1292. Burial in a Foreign Place.

Before a person in the naval service is buried in a foreign place, the senior officer present shall arrange with the local authorities for the interment of the body and shall also request permission to parade an escort under arms. The senior officer present shall inform the senior foreign officers present and the appropriate local officials of the time and place of the funeral, and of the funeral honors to be rendered by United States forces present.

### 1293. Death of Diplomatic, Consular or Foreign Official.

1. On the death in a foreign place of a diplomatic or consular representative of the United States, the senior officer present shall, as circumstances permit, arrange for appropriate participation in

the funeral ceremonies by persons in the naval service.

2. The senior officer present, upon receiving official notice of the death or funeral of a foreign official, or member of a foreign armed service, shall, as circumstances warrant and as international courtesy demands, direct visits of condolence to be made, and arrange for participation by persons in the naval service in the funeral ceremonies.

### 1294. Transporting Body of Deceased Official.

When a ship of the Navy is transporting the body of a deceased official, the honors and ceremonies prescribed for an official visit shall, if directed by the senior officer present or higher authority, be rendered when the body is received aboard or leaves the ship.

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