

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

OPNAVINST 1534.1D N4 10 Jun 2011

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1534.1D

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: STRATEGIC SEALIFT OFFICER PROGRAM

Ref: (a) 46 U.S.C. §51101 et seq., §51301 et seq., §51501 et seq., §51701 et seq.

- (b) CNSTCINST 1533.2
- (c) OPNAVINST 1000.26A
- (d) COMNAVRESFORCOMINST 1534.1
- (e) COMNAVRESFORINST 1001.5
- (f) BUPERSINST 1001.39F
- (g) SECNAVINST 1920.6C
- (h) Memorandum of Agreement between SECNAV (DON) and MARAD of 23 JAN 2003 (NOTAL)
- (i) NAVPERS 15665I

1. <u>Purpose</u>. To issue policy and assign responsibilities for the organization, administration, and training of commissioned officers in the Strategic Sealift Officer Program (SSOP).

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 1534.1C.

3. <u>Mission</u>. To maintain within the Reserve Component of the U.S. Navy a cadre of strategic sealift officers (SSOs) composed of the following:

a. <u>Selected Reserve (SELRES)</u>. Component which primarily supports Military Sealift Command (MSC), but also other Navy and joint commands.

b. <u>Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)</u>. Component comprised of actively sailing officers in the U.S. Merchant Marine who are qualified to operate merchant ships as naval auxiliaries and provide officer crewing for ships in the Ready Reserve Force (RRF) and MSC's Surge Sealift Fleet.

4. <u>Background</u>. The U.S. Merchant Marine is an essential component of national defense. It provides the primary sealift capability necessary to meet defense requirements. Experience

gained during previous conflicts has emphasized the importance of Navy coordination with all segments of the maritime industry. In order to facilitate these integrated operations, the Department of the Navy established, in support of reference (a), the Merchant Marine Reserve (MMR), U.S. Naval Reserve Program. This program is now the SSOP.

5. <u>Policy</u>. The SSOP supports national defense sealift requirement and capabilities, as executed by MSC. SSOP provides naval reserve officers which are licensed merchant marine officers with sealift, maritime operations, and logistics subject matter expertise.

6. <u>Organization</u>. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics) (CNO (N4)) is the Strategic Sealift Officer Program sponsor (SSOPS), whose primary action officer is the Assistant for Merchant Marine and Maritime Affairs (OPNAV (N42E)). Commander, Military Sealift Command (COMSC) is the flag sponsor, and primary supported command for MSC affiliated Reserve Component (SELRES), including the strategic sealift units (SSU). COMSC's primary action officer is MSC Strategic Sealift Officer Program Readiness Officer (MSC (N00R)). Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (COMNAVRESFORCOM) is the program manager, whose primary action officer is Strategic Sealift Officer Program Manager (SSOPM) (COMNAVRESFORCOM (N14)), for the IRR officers. The SSOP consists of Navy Reserve officers participating in one of the following five categories:

a. <u>SSU</u>. SSUs are reserve units comprised primarily of SSO SELRES. COMSC is the program manager and supported command for the SSUs. SSUs assist the SSOPM in the management and mobilization of the Strategic Sealift Readiness Group (SSRG), as well as other missions assigned by MSC. Composition, training and responsibilities of the SSUs will be issued by MSC.

b. <u>SELRES Units other than SSUs</u>. SSOs should also participate in SELRES units, if billets are available, in the priority given in subparagraphs 3a and 8c(1). COMSC identifies additional programs or units requiring strategic sealift expertise and coordinates with those program sponsors to designate additional billets to be filled by SSOs.

c. <u>SSRG</u>. The SSRG is the IRR component, comprised of officers qualified to operate merchant ships as naval auxiliaries and provide other crewing for ships in the RRF and MSC's Surge Sealift Fleet. Central management for naval training is from the SSOP Office, led by SSOPM (COMNAVRESFORCOM (N14)). Funding for orders will be made available to those officers whose United States Coast Guard (USCG) credentials and experience are commensurate with anticipated mobilization requirements, based on the composition of ships in the RRF and MSC's Surge Sealift Fleet, as determined by the SSOPS.

d. <u>Active Duty Recalls</u>. OPNAV (N42E), MSC (N00R), and the SSOPM (COMNAVRESFORCOM (N14)) are 3-year recall opportunities specifically for SSOs. These three positions provide the central management and leadership of the SSOP. In addition, there are two competitive recall opportunities supporting the Strategic Sealift Midshipman Program: Officer in Charge (OIC) Department of Naval Science (DNS), United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA); and OIC DNS, Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

e. <u>Strategic Sealift Midshipman Program</u>. The Strategic Sealift Midshipman Program is an education and training program conducted by the DNS at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and state maritime academies. These programs are designed to qualify participants for commissioned service. Program administration, eligibility, participation requirements, and training are directed by the Navy Education Training Command's Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), under guidance issued in reference (b).

7. Designators and Additional Qualification Designation (AQD) Codes

a. SSOs will be commissioned with a special duty restricted line designator of 1665/SSO.

b. Officers and billets with the 1625, 1675, or 1695 designators shall be redesignated 1665/SSO by Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM).

c. AQD codes indicate USCG Merchant Mariner credential (MMC) officer endorsements within the SSO designator.

8. Maintaining Eligibility

a. <u>MMC Requirements for all SSOs</u>. Both SELRES and IRR SSOs shall maintain an active unlimited tonnage and horsepower deck and or engineering USCG MMC. In addition, applicable standards of training, certificate and watchkeeping (STCW) endorsement requirements must be completed by SSRG officers, as outlined and published via the SSOPM Homeport Web site. For purposes of the SSOP, MMCs within the 1-year grace period for renewal or those that are renewed as "Certificate of Continuity" are not considered valid or active. Officers with credentials that have expired or have renewed for "Certificate of Continuity" should:

(1) Request a waiver from the SSOPM for a period of 1 year or for a period as determined necessary by the SSOPM to renew the USCG MMC. Waiver period shall start from the date of the SSOPM's written approval and end when the renewed credential is received in the SSOPM office or the end of the prescribed allotted time, whichever comes first. This waiver may be granted only once in an officer's career; or

(2) If eligible, transfer to other Navy officer communities, via a change of designator request; or

(3) If not serving under initial obligation outlined in references (a) and (c), resign or request to be discharged or transferred to the stand-by or retired reserve status as outlined in section 65 of title 10, United States Code.

b. <u>Waivers</u>. Waivers will be submitted to the SSOPM for a recommendation of approval or disapproval. The SSOPM will then submit the recommendation to the reserve program coordinator (MSC (NOOR)) at MSC for final disposition. Appeals of a determination of ineligibility will be adjudicated by the SSOPS (OPNAV (N42E)) upon submission of a written request submitted via MSC and the SSOPM.

(1) COMSC may recommend a waiver for SSOs in the SELRES for any interval, or for an indefinite period of time.

(2) The length of such a waiver will be approved by the SSOPS on a case by case basis.

c. <u>SELRES</u>. The following items apply to SSOs in the SELRES:

(1) Billets coded 1665/SSO designator will be given priority fill. When assigning SSO to SELRES billets, priority shall be given first to MSC. Strategic sealift designated officers may apply for and drill in billets that are designated 1xxx or 1050 billets, once all 1665 billets have been filled.

(2) Applicable STCW endorsement training and certification for SSOs in the SELRES is waived unless the billet training plan calls for afloat service. SSOs who transfer from the SELRES to the SSRG must obtain current STCW endorsement as required by the SSOPM and the SSOPS.

(3) SSRG SSOs must comply with references (d) and (e) when applying for a SELRES billet through Navy recruiters.

d. <u>SSRG</u>. To be eligible to serve in the SSRG, SSOs must possess a current USCG unlimited tonnage and horsepower deck and or engineering MMC with an applicable STCW endorsement, including any subsequent amendments, and be capable of standing watch onboard a vessel at sea. SSRG SSOs must maintain eligibility for a security clearance and meet one of the following requirements:

(1) Be serving within the obligation period of commissioned service incurred under an SSO training and service agreement (TSA), under the terms of the initial MSO outlined in reference (c), or other Navy obligations outlined in reference (a); or

(2) Earn a minimum of 120 days sea time in the previous 24 months towards credential renewal; or

(3) Be employed as an instructor at a maritime academy, or in a USCG approved school of navigation or marine engineering; or

(4) Be employed with a U.S. Government agency concerned with civilian or military shipping; or

(5) Hold a second mate or second assistant engineer MMC or higher; or

(6) Be actively employed in a maritime-related occupation (e.g., terminal manager, vessel manager, petroleum surveyor, ship repair supervisor, etc.), and have a valid USCG MMC. Eligibility waivers will be reviewed biennially by the SSOPM.

9. <u>Participation</u>. Participation is essential for promotion and meeting Navy mission requirements. SSOs not actively sailing on USCG credentials should seek either pay billets in the SELRES or voluntary training unit billets rather than remaining in the IRR component. Minimum participation requirements for retention in the SSOP are based on the status of the officer. Officers entering the SSOP upon graduation from the USMMA or who completed a student incentive payment (SIP) agreement while attending a state maritime academy, have two separate obligations under their SSOP TSA: one to the Department of Defense (DoD) and a separate obligation to the Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD). Each Department has separate reporting requirements.

a. <u>SSOP TSA.</u> SSOs serving under a SSOP TSA assume an 8year military service obligation (MSO) at commissioning. Those sections of the TSA which correspond to the requirements of the MARAD service obligation contract (SOC) are monitored by MARAD and officers must report compliance with those requirements directly to MARAD. This paragraph lists the DoD TSA requirements for satisfactory service as a SSO. Compliance with the MSO is monitored by the SSOPM. In fulfillment of the MSO, SSOs under a TSA must participate in the Navy Reserve by completing one of the following:

 Serve on full-time active duty for a period of 3 years with the remainder of obligated service in the Reserve Component; or

(2) Complete the participation requirements for either one or a combination of the two options specified below:

(a) Meet the participation requirements for the SSRG, as outlined in subparagraph 9c; or

(b) Participate as a SELRES in the Navy Reserve.

b. <u>SELRES</u>. SSOs in the SELRES must maintain participation requirements as specified in reference (f).

c. SSRG

(1) Required

(a) Complete 2 weeks of active duty training (ADT) each fiscal year unless waived by the SSOPM for a valid reason as determined by the SSOPM.

(b) Submit a completed SSO Annual Report by 31 March of each calendar year to the SSOPM.

(c) Check the SSO Web-based homeport and verify email address on file with SSOPM, at least every first day of each month or as sailing schedule permits.

(d) Answer all official Navy correspondence and keep the Navy informed of all address and contact changes.

(e) Complete a periodic health assessment annually.

(f) Notify the SSOPM whenever there is a change in physical condition that may interfere with performance of reserve obligations.

(2) Options for Voluntary Participation

(a) Complete correspondence courses approved by Naval Education and Training Command.

(b) Drill voluntarily with a Navy Reserve unit under non-pay inactive duty training (IDT) individual participation authorization (IPA) orders issued by the SSOPM. Assignment will be made with concurrence of the Navy Operational Support Center and the reserve unit commanding officer. Procedures are outlined in reference (d).

(c) Perform professional training as authorized by the SSOPM under the provisions of reference (f).

(d) Perform pay and non-pay ADT under orders issued by the SSOPM. Assignment will be made with the concurrence of the Navy activity and the SSOPM.

(3) Credit for Extended Sea Service. SSOs who maintain afloat engineering and ship handling experience on commercial ships provide critical skills for the SSOP, especially those with advanced level USCG unlimited tonnage and horsepower deck and or engineering MMC. Since sailing SSOs have time and geographical constraints that may preclude them from performing the above program requirements, the SSOPM may credit compliant SSRG officers with retirement points as follows:

(a) 35 points for service over 180 cumulative days at sea in the previous anniversary year.

(b) Above days at sea must be documented by USCG discharge papers or letter of sea service from MSC. Time employed aboard RRF ships, even in reduced operating status, count as sea days. None of the above waives SSOs from performing the required 2 weeks of ADT or other requirements, unless granted a written waiver by the SSOPM.

(c) Awarding of points for extended sea time will not be issued unless the officer is in compliance with all other SSOP requirements specified in this paragraph. The awarding of points for extended sea service commenced from 1 January 2006 and is not retroactive from this date.

(4) Credit for Harbor Pilots. SSOs, who are employed as harbor pilots, obtain ship handling experience on commercial vessels providing the SSOP with officers possessing critical unlimited tonnage pilotage skills. Harbor pilots do not obtain discharges, but serve onboard ships during times of pilotage. The SSOPM may credit harbor pilots with up to 20 retirement points. Criteria are as follows:

(a) The harbor pilot must be compliant with all other SSOP requirements;

(b) The officer must be a current member of a recognized pilot organization and an active member of the SSRG harbor pilot group as determined by the SSOPM;

(c) Pilotage for any of the time must be obtained onboard an unlimited tonnage vessel; and be determined by days on board or trips completed while piloting a vessel, as documented by the member and verified by the SSOPM;

(d) Standby time will not count;

(e) 20 points per anniversary year may be issued for qualifying service of at least 100 days or 180 trips completed;

(f) Each request for pilotage retirement points must be accompanied by a letter from the pilot organization stating that the individual is a member in good standing and provide a copy of the state issued license or certification as applicable.

(g) Final determination as to the amount of time to be recognized per each request for pilotage shall be made by the SSOPM and based upon the aforementioned criteria.

d. <u>Component Alignment Guidance</u>. Determination of the component in which a SSO participates is dependent upon the requirements of the Navy. There is no guarantee that shore-side SSOs will be gained or retained in the SSRG unless the SSOPM deems that it is in the best interest of the Navy.

(1) Actively Sailing SSOs. SSOs that are actively sailing on their credentials may serve in the SSRG. For purposes of this program, "actively sailing" is defined as at sea for 120 days or more in the previous 24 months. USCG vessel discharges or letters of sea service from MSC will be used to document days at sea.

(2) Shore Based SSOs

(a) Shore based SSOs should participate in the SELRES to meet the needs of the Navy. If an SSO in the SSRG is shore-side and outside of the TSA and MSO with no active duty

experience and or advanced license, then the SSOPM can make a determination not to issue ADT orders or to transfer the SSO to standby reserve inactive (S-2).

(b) In order to meet the needs of the Navy, the SSOPM may request non-sailing SSRG officers contact a Navy recruiter for affiliation into the SELRES if the SSO has sailed less than 120 days in the last 24 months.

(c) If there are more SSOs than available billets, the most highly qualified officer(s) shall be selected. Billets should be filled in the priority outlined in sub-paragraph 8b(1) of this instruction.

10. Non-Participation

a. <u>Strategic Sealift Midshipmen Program Participant</u>. Any strategic sealift midshipman who breaches those sections of the SSO TSA which correspond to the MARAD SOC, will be reported via applicable midshipman or officer candidate disenrollment reports. The NSTC OIC of the maritime academy will forward the disenrollment report to MARAD with copy to Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Strategic Mobility and Combat Logistics Division (N42), via the NSTC director of officer development.

b. <u>SSO TSA</u>. SSOs participating under a SSOP TSA, who do not satisfactorily fulfill their annual commissioned service obligation will be reported to MARAD. Additionally, the Navy may administratively separate the officer from the naval service pursuant to reference (g).

c. <u>SSOs Ready Reserve Agreement</u>. SSOs participating under voluntary service agreements who do not perform satisfactorily, or whose MMC expires, will be identified by SSOPM to NAVPERSCOM Reserve Officer Status Branch (PERS-911). NAVPERSCOM (PERS-911) can take action to retain, transfer to the Standby Reserve, retire, or discharge the officer.

11. <u>Mobilization</u>. The policy for mobilization of officers in the SSOP is:

a. <u>SELRES</u>. As with all SELRES officers, SSOs in the SELRES will be mobilized per current OPNAV mobilization policy.

b. SSRG

(1) SSRG officers employed in a position requiring a USCG MMC at sea aboard a U.S. flag vessel or a foreign flag vessel under "Effective U.S. Control," including those between assignments, will be mobilized only if there is an urgent and specific need for their services. Their intended role is to continue to serve aboard U.S. merchant ships. As a result of their formal U.S. Navy training, these officers will be qualified to carry out operations effectively in concert with U.S. Navy forces.

(2) SSRG officers not serving at sea on mobilization day may be mobilized to Navy commands, both afloat and ashore, as required to fulfill national emergency requirements. Crewing on RRF ships will be performed per reference (h).

12. <u>Strategic Sealift Officer Warfare Insignia (SSOWI) and</u> <u>Qualification</u>. The SSO warfare qualification recognizes the demonstrated professional expertise of a select group of personnel trained in strategic sealift operations. Only those officers who have completed the requirements outlined herein shall be eligible for designation as a SSO and wear the SSOWI. Qualification is mandatory for all 1665 officers. Eligibility to qualify is limited to commissioned officers in the special duty restricted line designator of 1665/SSO.

a. <u>Qualification</u>. To qualify for the SSOWI, candidates shall:

(1) Obtain a commission as an officer in the United States Navy or Navy Reserve at a minimum rank of ensign through one of the following sources:

(a) Graduation from the USMMA at Kings Point, NY, or one of the state maritime academies in Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Texas, California, or at the Great Lakes Maritime Academy, and successfully complete the Naval Science curriculum administered per reference (b) while serving under a TSA.

(b) Direct appointment of officers, under standards established by the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (COMNAVCRUITCOM), who possess an active USCG unlimited officer credential at the minimum level of a chief mate or first assistant engineer with current STCW endorsement and are employed in a position deemed mission useful by the SSOPM.

(c) Via a change of designator by Navy Reserve officers originally commissioned through other programs, or inter-service transfer of officers from other reserve components who possess at a minimum that of an active USCG second mate or second assistant engineer unlimited tonnage and horsepower officer credential with current STCW endorsement, and are employed in a position deemed mission useful by the SSOPM.

(2) Obtain and maintain an unlimited tonnage and horsepower USCG MMC as prescribed in paragraph 8 of this instruction.

(3) Complete formal Navy training as required by COMSC and the SSOPS, as prescribed by the SSOPM. An example of this training is completing the Naval Science curriculum at the USMMA.

b. Authorization to Wear the SSOWI

(1) COMSC, through the SSOPM, will formally designate, in writing, qualified SSOs following the above criteria. Copies of the designation letter will be forwarded to NAVPERSCOM. Upon receipt of the designation letter, NAVPERSCOM will assign the appropriate AQD to those officers designated as SSOs.

(2) Once qualified, relevant comments should be included in an individual's fitness report.

(3) The SSOWI shall be worn per reference (i).

(4) Personnel qualified to wear the SSOWI who change designators may continue to wear the insignia per reference (i). Personnel in a 1665 designator, who qualified as an MMR prior to the date of this instruction will wear the SSOWI subject to paragraph 12c of this instruction. (5) Strategic sealift midshipmen are not authorized to wear the SSOWI. The Merchant Marine Naval Reserve insignia will no longer be authorized for wear on the Navy uniform.

c. Revocation of Eligibility

(1) Personnel previously qualified as SSOs may be disqualified by the SSOPM if the member refuses to accept or perform professional duties and or fails to remain in compliance with requirements or fails to maintain professional qualifications as prescribed by the SSOPM as contained in this instruction. Formal notification of disqualification shall be recorded in the member's service record, including the removal of AQDs. Disqualified personnel will be detailed to follow-on assignments according to the needs of the Navy and or be subject to redesignation or involuntary separation.

(2) Once disqualified, personnel may seek approval to requalify from the SSOPM. Redesignation requires all eligibility requirements of this instruction to be met and successful completion of the qualification process in its entirety.

13. Responsibilities

- a. CNO (N4) shall:
 - (1) Serve as SSOPS;
 - (2) Provide policy and planning direction;
 - (3) Validate billet requirements;
 - (4) Support personnel and logistic requirements;

(5) Coordinate with Bureau of Navy Personnel (BUPERS), COMNAVRESFORCOM and MSC on the policy of retention of officers in the program; and

(6) Liaise with NSTC regarding issuance of SIP scholarships.

b. COMSC shall:

 Serve as flag sponsor for the SSOP and serve as the supported command for the SSRG and MSC affiliated Reserve Component;

(2) Serve as the program manager for the SSU. In this capacity, MSC will be responsible for managing the funds received from COMNAVRESFORCOM to fund individual duty training travel and ADT for the SSU units;

(3) Assist the SSOPS and other commands as appropriate in support of the management and administration of the program;

(4) In conjunction with the SSOPS, identify SELRES billets for SSOs;

(5) Set program training objectives and assess the progress of the program in meeting objectives;

(6) Provide annual guidance to COMNAVRESFORCOM on which MSC commands require SSO support to better fit manpower resources to requirements;

(7) Coordinate with BUPERS and COMNAVRESFORCOM on retention of officers affiliated in the program;

(8) Assist COMNAVRESFORCOM with ensuring good order and discipline of all officers in the SSOP;

(9) Ensure with SSOPM that the technical training requirements of the program are met;

(10) In consultation with MARAD and SSOPS, establish the technical training requirements for the SSUs; and

(11) Assist the SSOPM and coordinate with the SSOPS in updating the SSRG Training Plan.

c. NSTC shall:

 Maintain DNS at the USMMA and state maritime academies and at approved maritime schools;

(2) Administer and align the Strategic Sealift Midshipman Program with the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) program; e.g., completing annual reports, general military training via Navy Knowledge On-line and conducting leadership labs;

(3) Process applications and appointments for strategic sealift midshipmen and maintain administrative control of all midshipmen;

(4) Process commission applications for all graduating strategic sealift midshipmen and assist with obtaining secret clearances;

(5) Coordinate with Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education) (CNO (N1)) and CNO (N4) to ensure that the Active Duty Accession Plan adequately represents the appropriate number of accessions from the USMMA and six State academies participating in the Strategic Sealift Midshipman Program;

(6) Provide the SSOPS, the SSOPM and MSC (NOOR) with an "annual summary" due 1 July of each year which provides at least the following:

(a) Number of graduates with USCG MMC (deck or engine);

(b) Number of midshipmen in pipeline by class year and intended USCG MMC with officer endorsement;

(c) Number of students at each academy including how many are in an MMC track, but not in training to join the SSOP;

(d) Recruiting and mentoring efforts. Number of days and other data on strategic sealift commissioned officers interaction with midshipmen and prospective strategic sealift midshipmen; and

(e) Suggestions for training improvement.

(7) Enter all strategic sealift midshipmen into theOfficer Program Management Information System (OPMIS);

(8) Update the SSOPS, MSC and SSOPM whenever a change in staff occurs that may affect the administration and leadership of the strategic sealift midshipmen;

(9) Notify the SSOPS, MSC and SSOPM whenever there is a revision to the regulations for officer development for the NROTC that may affect the administration of the Strategic Sealift Midshipman Program, allowing for appropriate time to submit recommendations; and

(10) Execute guidance from SSOPS, which outlines strategic sealift midshipmen pipeline requirements. The DNS OICs and NROTC units' commanding officers shall take direction from NSTC on all matters pertaining to SIP scholarships.

d. Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command shall:

(1) Serve as the SSOPM;

(2) Monitor SSO fulfillment of the commissioned service requirements of the SSO TSA and report any non-compliance to the SSOPS;

(3) Serve as the single point of contact for SSOs in the SSRG;

(4) Assign training to SSRG officers as necessary to meet the objectives of the program;

(5) Monitor program training requirements including the processing of ADT applications, uniform allowance claims, ADT waivers and IDT IPA orders;

(6) Assign members of the SSOP to meet special requirements of the SSOPS, flag sponsor and supported command for the SSRG and MSC affiliated Reserve Component special project requirements;

(7) Monitor the performance of program members and report to NAVPERSCOM (PERS-911) those officers no longer eligible and or in compliance;

(8) Report non-compliant members to the SSOPS those members who are non-compliant with program requirements;

(9) Ensure good order and discipline of all officers in the SSOP. Any and all offenses shall be addressed through coordination with such command as is applicable for proper adjudication pursuant to and subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice; and

(10) Assist COMNAVCRUITCOM and BUPERS Reserve Community Manager (BUPERS-318) with meeting SELRES placement requirements outlined in the officer accession plan for each fiscal year. Further, ensure that priority is given to billets as outlined above in subparagraph 9d of this instruction.

e. COMNAVCRUITCOM shall:

 Screen and process direct commission applications for appointment to the SSOP;

(2) Process all accession requests of SSOs for affiliation into the SELRES based on recruiting goals and coordination with SSOPM for approval;

(3) Ensure that all direct commission or SELRES applicants meet the maritime requirements specified in paragraphs 9 and 12 of this instruction; and

(4) Ensure all accessions into the SSOP or SSO accessions into the SELRES are approved by the SSOPM.

f. NAVPERSCOM shall:

(1) Staff the DNS at the Federal and State maritime academies and other maritime schools;

(2) Separate or take other action on strategic sealift midshipmen who fail to fulfill the requirements of their Navy TSA (following recommendation by NSTC and approval by the SSOPS) as outlined in reference (a);

(3) Select those graduates of the maritime academies who desire to exercise the active duty option of the SSO TSA;

(4) Monitor SSOs for reserve status, designator changes, and attrition under current laws and directives.

(5) Separate or take other action, as outlined in reference (a), on any SSOs who fail to meet the participation requirements outlined in paragraph 9 of this instruction pursuant to the recommendation of the SSOPM and approval by the SSOPS;

(6) Maintain service and medical records for SSRG officers and provide service to those officers;

(7) Assign AQDs to SSOs as endorsed by the SSOPM based on credential level as outlined in reference (f); and

(8) Maintain security clearance documentation for the SSRG as required by the SSOPS and SSOPM.

g. Bureau of Medicine and Surgery shall:

(1) Provide physical examinations for program applicants per surface unrestricted line officer requirements; and

(2) Review physical examinations of program applicants, reporting on the physical qualifications of each applicant.

h. MARAD shall:

(1) Monitor compliance with the MARAD SOC as required by reference (a);

(2) Execute action for breach of contract as outlined in reference (a).;

(3) Provide training recommendations for the SSUs in consultation with COMSC and the SSOPM for surge requirements pertaining to the RRF; and

(4) Recruit students into the SIP based on the projected requirements for the SSOP as provided in writing by the SSOPS.

14. <u>Action</u>. Addressees will be guided by the policy outlined above in administering the SSOP.

15. <u>Records Management</u>. 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 November 2007.

W. R. BURKE Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics)

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