OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3450.18C

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: UNITED STATES NAVAL COOPERATION AND GUIDANCE FOR SHIPPING

Ref: (a) NTTP 3-07.12, May 2013
(b) ATP 2(C)(2), Vol. I, Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping Manual (and Supplement), May 2013 (NOTAL)
(d) AAP-8(F) (NAVY), Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping; Organization, Publications and Documents, July 2007 (NOTAL)

1. Purpose. To describe the organizational structure and responsibilities for program funding, developing training requirements, and doctrine for naval cooperation and guidance for shipping (NCAGS). This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety. This change:

   a. Consolidates program sponsor and resource sponsor responsibilities with the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Dominance (N2/N6).

   b. Modifies NCAGS man, train, equip and funding responsibilities of Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command; fleet commanders; and Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3450.18B.

3. Background. The NCAGS organization was originally established to meet the national need to operate in a global open-ocean threat environment. Current doctrine centers on a littoral or regional threat. The areas of risks to shipping, though limited in size, may be located anywhere in the world and in more than one location simultaneously. As a result, the NCAGS organization may be called upon to meet multiple threats and must create an organization and operating policy that shall
successfully meet these littoral or regional challenges. Tactics and techniques follow references (a) through (d).

4. Mission

a. The NCAGS mission is to assist the fleet commander in managing risk by providing situational awareness and real-time clarity of the merchant shipping picture and secondarily, to ensure the safe passage of merchant shipping in crisis or contingency.

b. In situations where the United States homeland is threatened, the NCAGS organization may be called upon to assist the U.S. Coast Guard or other designated authorities in identifying shipping bound for United States ports and contributing to the maritime common operating picture as part of national homeland security efforts.

5. NCAGS Policy and Procedures

a. Coordination and guidance for shipping is a national responsibility; United States doctrine is contained in reference (a).

b. The United States NCAGS organization shall cooperate with other nations to develop plans where a formal agreement exists. NCAGS doctrine for operating with North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Commander Area Maritime Atlantic South, and other allied forces is found in references (b) through (d).

6. Responsibilities

a. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Dominance (N2/N6)

   (1) Perform the responsibilities as resource sponsor and program sponsor. Be responsible for active, reserve, and civilian manpower.

   (2) Ensure other manpower, personnel, training and education Navy activities meet human resource program requirements (i.e., recruiting and mobilization readiness).
b. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (COMUSFLTFORCOM)

(1) Perform the responsibilities of advisor to CNO for NCAGS.

(2) Ensure overall efficient operation and readiness of an NCAGS organization capable of providing guidance and supervision to United States shipping during a contingency situation, national emergency, and limited or general war.

(3) Under the guidance of the CNO, act as NCAGS program and technical manager, providing required administrative guidance to fleet commanders and program updates to the program sponsor.

(4) Establish and maintain doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures for the United States NCAGS organization.

(5) Determine NCAGS organization, command, and unit structure including associated missions, functions, and tasks. Establish and maintain manpower and organizational requirements necessary to execute the NCAGS mission via the shore manpower requirements determination process.

(6) Coordinate NCAGS operational support (funding, orders, scheduling, administrative and personnel support, and training) through the supported fleet operational support element. Support necessary mobilization requirements to accomplish assigned missions and tasking.

(7) Coordinate NCAGS effort with other Department of Defense (DoD) organizations and with interested national and international organizations.

(8) Ensure adequate preparation for participation in allied NCAGS or other allied coalition operations.

(9) Establish training standards for the United States NCAGS organization.

(10) Assist fleet commanders in establishing standard support packages, communications, and general equipage necessary for NCAGS mission execution.

(12) Serve as Navy and DoD representative to the NATO shipping working group.

(13) Serve as DoD representative to the specialized Inter-American Naval Conference for Navy coordination and guidance for shipping.

(14) Serve as Navy representative to the International NCAGS Training Group.

(15) Serve as Navy and DoD advisor to the Department of Transportation on the NATO Planning Board for Ocean Shipping.

c. Fleet Commanders

(1) Under the guidance of COMUSFLTFORCOM, exercise administrative and operational control of NCAGS resources and units when assigned.

(2) Ensure that NCAGS resources are incorporated in operational plans and concept plans as appropriate.

(3) Coordinate manpower requirements with COMUSFLTFORCOM to ensure overall requirements of the NCAGS organization are properly maintained.

(4) Identify and procure equipment, publications, material, and logistic support services required by the NCAGS organization.

(5) Approve, validate, and fund NCAGS contingency and exercise support. Ensure theater unique communications and clearance requirements are addressed during the programming and budgeting processes.

(6) Implement Commander, Navy Reserve Force fiscal year force execution entitlement expenditure guidance.

d. Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command. Provide requested reserve program management to include manpower,
administrative, personnel, and financial and reserve pay support through the associated Navy Reserve structure at the direction of COMUSFLTFORCOM.

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

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