OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.344A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: MISSIONS, FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF COMMANDER, U.S. NAVAL FORCES SOUTHERN COMMAND

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5400.44A

Encl: (1) Functions and Tasks of COMUSNAVSO

1. **Purpose**

   a. To publish the functions and tasks of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (COMUSNAVSO) under the authority of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO).

   b. Reference (a) requires echelon 2 commands to update their mission, functions and tasks every 3 years. This update reflects only echelon 2 requirements for COMUSNAVSO, removes echelon 3 tasks, adds Cooperative Security Location (CSL) Comalapa, El Salvador, as an echelon 4, updates unit identification codes (UIC) of those activities that COMUSNAVSO supports, and updates several tasks. This is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. **Cancellation.** OPNAVINST 5450.344.

3. **Authorities.** U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (USNAVSO) serves as the Navy component command to U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM), responsible to CNO and Commander, USSOUTHCOM for all Navy activities in the USSOUTHCOM area of responsibility (AOR). All Navy commands desiring to conduct any business or operations in the USSOUTHCOM AOR will coordinate and seek approval of their activities from COMUSNAVSO.

4. **Mission.** USNAVSO supports USSOUTHCOM joint and combined full-spectrum military operations by providing principally sea-based, forward presence to ensure freedom of maneuver in the maritime domain, to foster and sustain cooperative relationships with international partners, and to fully use the sea as maneuver space in order to enhance regional security and promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the Caribbean, Central and South American regions.

5. **Status and Command Relationships.** USNAVSO is a shore activity in an active and fully operational status. The command operates as a single integrated headquarters sharing operational and administrative support resources while preserving the echelon relationship.
COMUSNAVS0 is an assigned force to Commander, USOUTHCOM and reports administratively to CNO. U.S. Fleet Forces Command is assigned as the budget submitting office and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare (CNO (N2N6)) is the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) resource sponsor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Echelon</th>
<th>Command</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CNO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>COMUSNAVS0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Commander, 4th Fleet (COMFOURTHFLT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Commanding Officer, CSL Comalapa, El Salvador</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Command, Tenant, Supported and Supporting Activities and Detachments (DET)

a. Immediate Superior in Command

(1) COMUSNAVS0: UIC 57061

(2) COMFOURTHFLT: UIC 64041

(3) Commander, Destroyer Squadron 40: UIC 52811

(4) CSL Comalapa: UIC 3146B

(5) USNAVS0 DET Miami (liaison officer at USOUTHCOM): UIC 3233A

(6) USNAVS0 DET Key West (liaison officer at Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF-S)): UIC 55654

(7) Navy Reserve (NR) USNAVS0/4th Fleet (FOURTHFLT) Mayport: reserve unit identification code (RUIC) 86919

(8) NR USNAVS0/FOURTHFLT DET A Puerto Rico: RUIC 83309

b. Supports the following activities listed in subparagraphs 5c(1) through 5c(3).

(1) Inter-American Naval Telecommunications Network (IANTN) DET Mayport: UIC 32112

(2) NR Commander, Destroyer Squadron 40 Headquarters: RUIC 87843

(3) NR Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping Houston: RUIC 83956

c. Receives support from Commander, Navy Region Southeast (COMNAVREG SE). U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (NAVSTA GTMO) is located in the USOUTHCOM AOR, but
falls under the administrative control of COMNAVREG SE. For execution of all operations (with the exception of the assigned C-12 aircraft) involving NAVSTA GTMO, COMNAVREG SE is designated as the supporting commander and COMUSNAVSO is the supported commander.

7. **Overseas Diplomacy.** The U.S. Navy serves as the lead Service for NAVSTA GTMO and CSL Comalapa. NAVSTA GTMO and the CSL Comalapa serve as instruments of U.S. foreign policy by initiating and continuing action programs which promote positive relations between the command and foreign nationals, and which assist individual naval personnel and their families to work effectively, live with dignity and satisfaction, and function as positive representatives of the Navy and the United States while overseas.

8. **Terminology**


   b. U.S. (or United States) Naval Forces Southern Command. Acronym: USNAVSO.

   c. Commander, U.S. (or United States) 4th Fleet. Acronyms: COMFOURTHFLT.

   d. U.S. (or United States) 4th Fleet. Acronym: FOURTHFLT.

9. **Action.** In accomplishing assigned missions, COMUSNAVSO will perform the functions and tasks in enclosure (1). COMUSNAVSO will submit recommended changes and revisions to this instruction when required.

10. **Records Management**

    a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned for the standard subject identification codes (SSIC) 1000, 2000, and 4000 through 13000 series per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy/Assistant for Administration (DON/AA), Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) portal page at https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx. For SSIC 3000 series dispositions, please refer to part III, chapter 3, of Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

    b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact your local records manager or the DON/AA DRMD program office.
11. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, USNAVSO and CNO N2N6 will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 5 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 5-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

[Signature]

STEFFANIE B. EASTER
Director, Navy Staff

Releasability and distribution:
This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via Department of the Navy Issuances Web site, [http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil](http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil)
FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF COMUSNAVS0

1. As the Navy component command assigned to Commander, USSOUTHCOM, plan and execute all naval operations within the AOR, as directed.

2. Be prepared to execute the duties of a joint forces maritime component commander and combined forces maritime component commander.

3. Serve as Commander Task Force 138 in support of all exercises (UNITAS, PANAMAX, etc.). Coordinate with U.S. and foreign force commanders and forces operating in the USSOUTHCOM AOR.

4. Serve as joint forces maritime component commander and combined forces maritime component commander in support operations and exercises as required, and coordinate with U.S. and international force commanders and forces operating in the USSOUTHCOM AOR.

5. Coordinate all U.S. Navy activities within the AOR to ensure effective mission accomplishment, proper message alignment, synchronization of activities, and safety of Navy personnel and forces.

6. Provide tenant command services (desk, computers, etc.) for IANTN and host the IANTN secretariat to provide for reliable, rapid, and secure communications and interoperability among IANTN member navies during peacetime and under emergency conditions.

7. Accept trained and ready naval forces to support full-spectrum military operations (from theater security cooperation to major contingency operations), promote regional stability, and ensure successful crisis response or decisive victory.

8. Engage in focused counter illicit trafficking operations as a force provider to JIATF-S. In support of JIATF-S and law enforcement agencies, conduct detection and monitoring of anti-smuggling operations on the high seas and littorals. Naval forces support interdiction and apprehension operations to include locating, boarding, search, and seizure of illicit cargo and persons only with a U.S. Coast Guard law enforcement DETs onboard, and holding of law enforcement persons of interest.

9. Operate under the maritime operations center and maritime headquarters concept by monitoring, assessing, planning, and directing assigned missions to support operational level maritime operations.

10. Maintain maritime domain awareness in the USSOUTHCOM AOR. Share unclassified and releasable maritime data as allowed under information sharing agreements with partner nations to enhance regional maritime domain awareness.
11. Plan, organize, and conduct deployments under Southern Seas, Continuing Promise, and Southern Partnership Station lines of effort.

12. Conduct operations to gain unfettered access to and freedom of navigation in international waters.

13. Conduct activities enhancing regional security for our partner nations by reducing potential for conflict. Focus on increasing multilateral relationships in the USSOUTHCOM AOR and promoting a common understanding of threats.

14. Provide oversight of the monthly “Fenceline Talks” at NAVSTA GTMO.

15. Investigate, inspect, and assess all matters concerning the command and subordinate activities throughout the USSOUTHCOM AOR with particular emphasis on readiness, discipline, information security, force health protection, health, morale, economy, ethics, and integrity; as well as other issues affecting quality of service, command relationships, and organizational structures.

16. Provide timely and relevant maritime intelligence support to enable planning and decision making by key leaders and subordinate forces within the USSOUTHCOM AOR. Per CNO N2N6, establish plans, policies or requirements, and oversight of all naval information warfare activities.

17. As a matter of priority continue to broaden coalition collaboration tool usage, such as Common Enterprise Regional Information Exchange System (CENTRIXS) and All Partners Access Network (APAN), with our USSOUTHCOM AOR partners.

18. Provide Force Health Protection guidance for all deployed naval forces, CSL personnel and forces, and NAVSTA GTMO except those specifically assigned to embassies (i.e., naval attaches, etc.), USSOUTHCOM Security Cooperation Office personnel, Joint Task Force GTMO and Joint Task Force Bravo.

19. The U.S. Navy is assigned as the lead Service for NAVSTA GTMO and the CSL Comalapa, El Salvador. Provide oversight, manpower and facility support to CSL Comalapa, El Salvador. As administrative control for NAVSTA GTMO, COMNAVREG SE provides manpower, funding, and facility support to NAVSTA GTMO.

20. Schedule all appropriate flights and manage the flight hours of the C-12s based at NAVSTA GTMO.

21. Ensure all U.S. Navy commands conducting engagements in the USSOUTHCOM AOR or in the continental United States with the regional partner nations are entering their engagements into Global Theater Security Cooperation Management Information System (G-TSCMIS) to including funding data and entering an assessment into G-TSCMIS port engagement.
22. Support CNO counterpart visits by updating the OPNAV directors on engagements pre-counterpart visit, attending the counterpart visit in Washington, DC, and escorting the partner nation head of navy during their continental United States trip.