OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.350A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: MISSIONS, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5400.15C
     (b) OPNAVINST 3710.7V
     (c) OPNAVINST 3510.15B
     (d) NAVAIRINST 13034.1F
     (e) SECNAVINST 7000.27B
     (f) DoD Instruction 8510.01 of 12 March 2014
     (g) Operating Agreement between COMNAVAIRSYSCOM and the PEO, Air Anti-submarine Warfare, Assault and Special Missions Programs (A); PEO, Tactical Aircraft Programs (T); and PEO, Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons Programs (U&W), 10 Feb 2012 (NOTAL)
     (h) Operating Agreement between the COMNAVAIRSYSCOM and the PEO, Joint Strike Fighter, (NOTAL)
     (i) NAVAIRINST 5450.22/CNAFINST 5450.1
     (j) OPNAVINST 5400.44A

Encl: (1) Functions and Tasks of Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (COMNAVAIRSYSCOM)

1. **Purpose.** To publish the mission, functions, and tasks of Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (COMNAVAIRSYSCOM), per references (a) through (j). This revision gives better granular details to the mission, functions and tasks for COMNAVAIRSYSCOM to facilitate alignment to product based requirements. This is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. **Cancellation.** OPNAVINST 5450.350.

3. **Mission.** To research, develop, test, acquire, field, deliver, support and sustain naval aircraft, weapons, and related technology systems and equipment in support of the operating forces; and to perform such other functions and tasks as directed.

4. **Authorities**

   a. Per reference (a), COMNAVAIRSYSCOM has management authority and accountability for designated naval aviation programs with the exception of that authority and responsibility
specifically assigned to a program executive officer (PEO) or direct reporting program manager (DRPM). This includes the direct research, design, development, procurement, and sustainment of naval aviation systems used by the Navy and Marine Corps. Naval Air Systems Command’s (NAVAIRSYSCOM) acquisition areas of cognizance include:

1. Aircraft (manned, unmanned and lighter-than-air);
2. Aeronautical weapons and information technology systems; and
3. Associated subsystems to include life support; propulsion and power; armament and or ordnance; avionics; air special mission equipment; mission support and aviation support equipment; and related systems and equipment, including training, photographic and reconnaissance, aircraft launching and recovery, and target systems.

b. As designated in reference (a), the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) (ASN(RD&A)) is the Navy acquisition executive for Department of the Navy (DON). The Navy acquisition executive has full responsibility for all DON acquisition programs through PEOs, DRPMs and COMNAVAIRSYSCOM. COMNAVAIRSYSCOM will:

1. Exercise the authority on behalf of Navy acquisition executive to directly supervise management of assigned programs, to include maintaining oversight of cost, schedule, and performance;
2. Report directly to ASN(RD&A) for all matters pertaining to research, development, and acquisition for assigned programs;
3. Provide support for the analysis of mission areas, in-service support, and support to the PEOs and DRPMs without duplicating their management function;
4. Report directly to the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), and Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) for execution of non-development, non-acquisition logistics sustainment and operating forces support;
5. Exercise technical authority and life cycle management for assigned programs and oversee core processes, operational safety, and assurance certification required to support the acquisition, in-service support, and disposal of weapon and information technology systems;
6. Exercise authority and accountability per references (b), (c), and (d) for COMNAVAIRSYSCOM-designated naval aviation programs to provide an independent
engineering assessment and airworthiness flight clearance release of all DON aircraft (manned and unmanned) and airborne weapon systems to ensure these air vehicles can be operated safely within defined operating limits. Exercise authority to require COMNAVAIRSYSCOM programs to use enterprise approaches to support sustainment of DON programs;

(7) Serve as head of contracting for both assigned PEO and DRPM programs;

(8) Serve as milestone and program decision authority for assigned acquisition category III and IV programs and other delegated programs; and,

(9) Serve as the source selection authority for assigned programs.

c. COMNAVAIRSYSCOM is assigned financial management authority and responsibility under reference (e) for assigned shore activities and military and civilian personnel, and will support the Department of Defense (DoD) financial improvement and audit readiness initiative to achieve auditable financial statements. COMNAVAIRSYSCOM will:

(1) Serve as the administering office and budget submitting office for the naval aviation PEOs, DPRMs, and assigned programs and as such, retain fiduciary responsibilities; and,

(2) Provide ASN(RD&A), CNO, and CMC requested program information for program objective memoranda and budget development.

5. Status and Command Relationships. COMNAVAIRSYSCOM is a shore activity in an active status under a commander.

a. Command

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<th>Echelon</th>
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b. Area Coordinator: Commander, Naval Installations Command.

c. Regional Coordinator: Commandant, Naval District Washington.

6. Commanded and Supported Activities

a. COMNAVAIRSYSCOM is the immediate superior in command, with delegated administrative control of the assigned echelon 3 activities and their subordinate activities listed in subparagraphs 6a(1) through 6a(3).

(1) Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, Patuxent River, Maryland.
(2) Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, China Lake, California.

(3) Commander, Fleet Readiness Centers, Patuxent River, Maryland.

Note: Per reference (f), COMNAVAIRSYSCOM immediate superior in charge authority is applicable to industrial maintenance, repair and overhaul (level 3/depot), and technical authority. Active and reserve intermediate (level 2) maintenance authority is executed under separate immediate superior in charge authorities indicated within reference (f).

b. As designated in references (g) and (h), COMNAVAIRSYSCOM provides technical and other support services, including comptroller and contracting support to the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) - ASN(RD&A)) - PEOs, and associated DRPM staff offices listed in subparagraphs 6b(1) through 6b(4).

(1) PEO for Air Anti-submarine Warfare, Assault and Special Mission Programs.

(2) PEO for Tactical Aircraft Programs.

(3) PEO for Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons Programs; and

(4) PEO for the Joint Strike Fighter Program.

c. Navy Reserve units are aligned to, and integrated with specific NAVAIRSYSCOM Active Component (AC) commands. The AC commander operationally employs the assigned reserve units. AC commanders ensure NAVAIRSYSCOM has the leverage to request and apply Navy Reserve Program-funded resources where needed.

7. **Overseas Diplomacy.** COMNAVAIRSYSCOM serves as an instrument of United States foreign policy by initiating and continuing action programs which promote positive relations between the command and foreign national personnel; and 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. **Functions and Tasks.** COMNAVAIRSYSCOM accomplishes its assigned mission by performing the functions and tasks defined in enclosure (1).

9. **Action.** In accomplishing the assigned mission, COMNAVAIRSYSCOM will ensure performance of the functions and tasks in enclosure (1).

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 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.

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, COMNAVAIRSYSCOM will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, SECNAV, 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 cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

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
FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND

1. Functions. In carrying out the mission, COMNAVAIRSYSCOM performs the functions listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this enclosure.

   a. Mission Areas. Supervises and directs all assigned functions, programs, and activities.

   b. Staff Area

      (1) Directs and supervises the performance and life cycle management of assigned programs. For assigned programs, establishes and disestablishes program manager offices subject to approval by higher authority as required;

      (2) Provides realistic cost estimates and risk assessment for the planning, programming, and budgeting of systems and equipment acquisition and support;

      (3) Controls changes in the configuration of assigned systems, equipment, and computer software during development, production, and service use, subject to the military performance requirements and characteristics of the CNO or CMC;

      (4) Coordinates and directs the planning, development, acquisition, installation, and support of aircraft, airborne and air-launched weapons, their support and related systems, and equipment following operational requirements;

      (5) Provides support to the Navy International Program Office, Foreign Military Sales aviation and logistic support programs;

      (6) Directs and reviews the formulation and presentation of COMNAVAIRSYSCOM inputs to the DON planning and programming systems;

      (7) Maintains liaison, exchanges information, and coordinates as required with CMC, the Commandant of the Coast Guard (COMDT COGARD), and with counterparts in other Military Departments, defense agencies, and other Federal agencies; and develops agreements and conducts programs for cooperative inter-Service support;

      (8) Advises CNO, CMC, and COMDT COGARD as appropriate, on the technical, logistic, economic, cost, and schedule implications of programs being executed by COMNAVAIRSYSCOM;

      (9) Provides support for joint urgent operational need requirements, rapid warfighter response, and irregular warfare efforts;
(10) Develops and issues policies and processes for acquisition and life cycle management of computers and computer software in assigned weapons systems;

(11) Performs research, development, test, and evaluation functions in response to CNO, CMC, COMDT COGARD, and the Chief of Naval Research requirements;

(12) Develops and manages information systems to support aeronautical systems associated with assigned programs;

(13) Develops, reviews, and issues acquisition strategy for ongoing programs and delineates policy within guidelines for higher authority;

(14) Coordinates and monitors policy compliance for aviation fleet maintenance programs. Provides staff support to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV N98) and Deputy CNO, Fleet Readiness and Logistics (CNO N4) for planning, formulation, and coordination of policy and requirements for aviation fleet maintenance; and

(15) Informs Chief of Naval Personnel and Chief of Navy Reserve on force-shaping initiatives related to AC and Reserve Component aerospace engineering and maintenance communities and profession.

c. **Personnel Support Areas**

   (1) Provides program management for military and civilian personnel programs, to include wage and classification; staffing and recruitment; equal employment opportunity; employee development; employment of individuals with disabilities; career development; employee relations; and performance programs; and

   (2) Informs CNO, CMC, COMDT COGARD, and other Navy commands and officials as appropriate on manpower and training requirements for military and civilian personnel in operations, maintenance, and support of systems and equipment provided by COMNAVAIRSYSCOM.

d. **Financial Services Area.** Plans, directs, and reviews the formulation and justification of budgets and apportionments, and monitors performance against plan during budget execution.

e. **Staff and Inter-Command and or Intra-Command Support**

   (1) Plans and allocates military, civilian, and contractor support manpower funds and other resources; assigns workload and evaluates performance of all components of COMNAVAIRSYSCOM;
(2) Provides service and support using command technical guidance on the operation and logistic support for all assigned weapons systems and support systems and equipment;

(3) Provides service and support to Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard commands as required in functional areas related to COMNAVAIRSYSCOM material, supply, finance, facilities, and other technical or professional matters as appropriate;

(4) Provides policy direction, management, and planning for the Navy elements of the DoD Major Range and Test Facility Base;

(5) Provides policy direction, acquisition, and life cycle management of Navy aerial and surface targets, and range instrumentation for fleet training ranges;

(6) Directs and coordinates planning for readiness, mobilization, industrial preparedness, and crisis management;

(7) Performs as internal command function, staff assistance, Navywide management, or services in any of the areas listed in subparagraphs 1e(7)(a) through 1e(7)(s) of this enclosure, and is not the chartered responsibility of another command, as assigned by the SECNAV or CNO:

   (a) Facility planning, programming, and maintenance;

   (b) Management of shore activities, industrial management of depot maintenance activities, administration of DoD policies on manufacturing methods, technology, and metrication;

   (c) Process improvement initiatives;

   (d) Security assistance programs;

   (e) International technology transfers and exports control;

   (f) Maintenance and material management systems;

   (g) Command management information systems;

   (h) Contracting for material and services;

   (i) Total force manpower and personnel planning;

   (j) Natural resources and environmental protection, and environmental protection data systems;
(k) Energy resource management, research and development, industrial energy requirements and conservation, and industrial material priorities and allocations;

(l) Oil analysis, metrology-calibration, and similar technical services;

(m) Technical information development and maintenance;

(n) Electromagnetic compatibility;

(o) Supports full rate production and low rate initial production for assigned programs;

(p) Human factors engineering program;

(q) Safety programs, including occupational safety and health standards;

(r) Configuration management; and

(s) Approval of development proposals and test and evaluation plans, and assigned aircraft suitability.

(8) Acts as lead systems command for the aviation-related issues listed in subparagraphs 1e(8)(a) through 1e(8)(j):

(a) Surface and airborne targets;

(b) Aircraft maintenance and material management;

(c) Joint depot maintenance analysis group;

(d) Maintenance inter-Service support;

(e) Navy ranges;

(f) Microcircuit obsolescence;

(g) Airborne mine countermeasures;

(h) Technical manual program;

(i) Human factors program; and

(j) Civilian logistics support standard practices and procedures:
1. Level of repair; and

2. Logistics support analysis.

(9) Develops, implements, and maintains a cybersecurity safety (CYBERSAFE) program based on the unique information systems and platform information technology-control systems and missions assigned in order to provide maximum reasonable assurance of survivability and resiliency of critical warfighting components under COMNAVAIRSYSCOM cognizance.

(10) Serves as the functional authorizing official assigned by Deputy Department of the Navy Command Information Officer, Navy (DDCIO (N)) under the risk management framework for aviation platforms and platform information technology-control systems aligned under the assigned technical authority as defined by reference (a). Exercises authority and accountability for the functional authorizing official and functional security control assessor roles and responsibilities as defined under the risk management framework in reference (f).

2. Tasks. COMNAVAIRSYSCOM performs such tasks as required to execute approved missions and functions and as directed.