



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, PACIFIC
N.S.C., OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94625

MSTSPAC 3550.1F
P-3D
21 March 1968

MSTSPAC INSTRUCTION 3550.1F

From: Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Pacific
To: Distribution List

Subj: Emergency fire and abandon ship drills

Ref: (a) COMSTSINST P3120.2C, Subj: Administrative and Operating
Procedures for MSTS Ships, Paragraph 2-8-5
(b) COMSTSINST P12410.1A, Subj: Lifeboat Training Guide

1. Purpose. The purpose of this Instruction is to promulgate supplemental instructions relative to emergency fire and abandon ship drills conducted on board ships assigned to COMSTSPAC and subordinate commands.

2. Cancellation. MSTSPAC INSTRUCTION 3550.1E is superseded. *

3. Action

a. Masters shall comply with reference (a), plus applicable Coast *
Guard rules and regulations. In ships with military departments assigned,
the master shall afford lifeboat training to male members of the military
department as described in subparagraph b. below.

b. COMILDEPTS, whose primary responsibility is to the passengers,
shall ensure that their personnel are capable of launching and operating
lifeboats. All male members of military departments shall receive in-
struction and training in lifeboat launching and lifeboat operation under
the supervision of ships' licensed officers. The male members of military
departments shall be exercised frequently in lifeboat operation. At
least once in every three months they shall, as a group, function as a
lifeboat launching crew under the direct supervision of ships' officers
and shall launch the boats from one of the lifeboat stations. This shall
be a station with nested lifeboats if the ship is so equipped. Lifeboat
training and handling shall be as prescribed in reference (b). The ex-
tent of participation by military department personnel in abandon ship
drills on board USNS ships shall be noted in the "Remarks" column of the
master's monthly Training and Drill Report (MSTS Form and Report
12410-5).

4. Critiques. In order that the drills may serve as a training medium *
as well as an evaluation of readiness, critiques shall be held immediately
following the drills in such a location as the master may direct. If
space permits, it is suggested that boat commanders attend this critique.

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5. Scheduling, observing, evaluating. The pre-sailing fire and abandon ship drills which are conducted at ships' home ports will be scheduled, observed, and evaluated by COMSTSPAC or the cognizant MSTS Office.

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