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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20390

COMSTSINST 4650.18D

M-32

18 August 1969

COMSTS INSTRUCTION 4650.18D

USNS FPOE 7-AP110

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

Subj: Troop berthing assignments in MSTS transports

1. Purpose. This Instruction establishes the policy for troop berthing assignments in MSTS transports to improve the habitability of troop spaces and establish a basis for operations and for the calculation of troop space utilization.
2. Cancellation. COMSTS INSTRUCTION 4650.18C is superseded.
3. Background. In response to Shipper Service desires to improve the habitability of troop spaces, various actions have been undertaken to improve berthing facilities and practices. These include installation of springs and mattresses, refurbishment, and limitation of the number of troops that may be berthed in a compartment.
4. Policy.
 - a. Troop loading and computations of troop space utilization in MSTS transports will be on a basis of standard troop capacity as defined in COMSTS INSTRUCTION 9330.5 except as noted in paragraph 5.
 - b. Whenever practicable, assignments to troop berths in MSTS transports shall not exceed two high in a given compartment until all compartments have been utilized. In instances of small troop-lifts, compartments will not be closed off to require concentration of billeting in contravention of the spirit of the established policy.
5. Exceptions.
 - a. Peacetime. Notwithstanding the reduction to standard capacities, the use of special capacity as delineated in COMSTS INSTRUCTION 9330.5 may be ordered by COMSTS if such action is specifically requested by a Shipper Service headquarters.
 - b. Emergency. Regardless of the foregoing, in emergencies the use of either the immediate or augmented emergency capacities may be directed by COMSTS, area or subarea commanders, or the cognizant naval commander.

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