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ACP 129 (E)

COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUCTIONS VISUAL SIGNALING PROCEDURES

ACP 129 (E)

The Joint Chiefs of Staff Washington, D.C. 20301

August 1987

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1 - GENERAL

101. PURPOSE

The procedures prescribed herein are designed to provide a concise and definite language whereby visual communications may be conducted accurately and rapidly.

182. VISUAL OPERATORS

- a. The attainment of reliability, speed and security depends to a large extent upon the operator. It is essential that he be well trained in the maintenance of signaling discipline and in the nature of his responsibilities.
- b. Adherence to prescribed procedure is mandatory. Unauthorized departures from or variations in prescribed procedure invariably create confusion, reduce reliability and speed, and tend to nullify security precautions, and are therefore prohibited. If the procedure prescribed herein does not cover a specific operating requirement, resorting to initiative and common sense should suffice.
- c. The following basic rules are essential to transmission discipline and security and shall be strictly enforced in all visual communications.
- (1) No transmission shall be made which has not been authorized by proper authority.
 - (2) An immediate answer to a call is essential.
 - (3) The following practices are specifically forbidden:
 - (a) Violations of visual silence.
 - (b) Unofficial conversation between operators.
 - (c) Transmitting the operator's personal sign.
 - (d) Unauthorized use of plain language.
 - (e) Use of other than authorized prosigns.
- (f) Unauthorized use of plain language in place of applicable prosigns or operating signals.
- (g) Linkage or compromise of classified call signs and address groups by plain language disclosures or association with unclassified call signs.
 - (h) Profane, indecent or obscene language.
 - (4) The following practices are to be avoided:
- essary. (a) Use of excessive beam width or of a light larger or brighter than nec-
 - (b) Transmitting at speeds beyond the capabilities of receiving operators.

103. BASIS

- a. The visual procedure contained herein incorporates the basic message format. Chapters 1 through 4 contain, for the most part, standard communication procedures peculiar to flashing light, semaphore and flaghoist. In using the examples given in the first four chapters, care must be taken to apply to them the procedure applicable to the particular visual method in mind.
 - b. Call signs used in this publication are to be considered fictitious.
 - c. The examples show normal flashing light procedure.
- d. In examples, where a definite time lag occurs between transmission and indication of receipt where appropriate, (e.g., by a flash), the receiving ship's transmission

is printed one line below that of the transmitting ship. Where there is no appreciable time lag (e.g., when all stations are repeating the "executive signal") all transmissions are shown on the same line.

104. USE

- a. The visual procedures prescribed herein shall be used for all transmissions in military visual communications.
- b. When messages in commercial form are handled by military systems, the procedure contained herein shall be used in the calling and routing instructions.
- c. When communicating with non-military ships or stations or non-allied warships, international procedure will be used. This procedure is contained in the International Code of Signals.
- d. Groups from the International Code of Signals may be used alone or in conjunction with groups from the Allied Maritime Tactical Signal Book or national or regional defense organization publications. Whenever international groups are used alone, international procedure is to be used in answering.
- (1) Whenever military use is made of the International Code of Signals, groups will be preceded by the code pennant when used with flags, and by the proword INTERCO when transmitted by morse, semaphore or spoken.
- (a) Whenever international signals are used alone, CODE followed by TACK shall be used to indicate that all groups following are taken from the International Code of Signals. When the signal consists of only one group the TACK may be omitted.
- (b) Whenever signals from the Allied Maritime Tactical Signal Book are supplemented by a group from the International Code of Signals, CODE shall immediately precede the signal group to indicate that only one group is taken from the International Code.
- (c) Por flaghoist signaling, a call sign preceding CODE may be hoisted in a superior position on a separate hoist and left flying during succeeding hoists of International Code groups. Hauling down the call and CODE indicates the end of the message.

185. INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE

a. All transmissions over military visual systems, except semaphore, flaghoist and panels are made by use of the International Morse Code. The characters used are:

(1) Letters.

(2) Figures

```
1 .--- 4 ...- 7 --.. 6 ----
2 ..-- 5 .... 8 ---.
3 ...- 6 -... 9 ----
```

(3) Punctuation.

Colon	
Comma	
Hyphen or dash	
Parenthesis/left hand bracket	
Parenthesis/right hand bracket	
Period or decimal point	

105.a.(3) (Continued)

Question mark Slant/oblique stroke

- b. Character Formulations.
 - (1) A dot is used as the unit of duration.
 - (2) A dash is equal to three units.
 - (3) An element is either a dot or a dash.
 - (4) The space between elements is one unit.
 - (5) The space between characters is three units.
 - (6) The space between groups is seven units.
 - (7) Overscored characters are transmitted as if they were a single character.

186. THE SEMAPHORE CHARACTERS

- a. All semaphore transmissions are made by use of:
 - (1) International alphabet and special signs which are shown on Plate I.
 - (2) Punctuation signs as follows:

107. ALLIED NAVAL SIGNAL PLAGS AND PENNANTS

The signal flags and pennants used in flaghoist communications shall be as shown on Plate II.

SECTION II - MESSAGE FORMS

108. GENERAL

Messages for transmission in military visual communications shall be prepared in plaindress, abbreviated plaindress or codress form.

109. PLAINDRESS

- a. A plaindress message is one in which the originator and addressee designations are indicated externally of the text.
- b. A plaindress message contains all the components (unless the call serves as the address) as shown in the basic message format, except that the prefix may be omitted. It must always include the precedence and date-time group.

118. ABBREVIATED PLAINDRESS

- a. Operational requirements for speed of handling may require abbreviation of plaindress message headings. In such case any or all of the following may be omitted:
 - (1) Precedence.
 - (2) Date.
- (3) Date-time group, (If not used, a time group should appear in Format Line

(4) Group count (except for encrypted messages).

111. CODRESS MESSAGE

A codress message is one in which the entire address, i.e., originator and all addresses, except when address indicating groups are used, is encrypted within the text. The heading of such a message contains only information necessary to enable communication personnel to handle it properly. It contains all other components shown in the schematic diagram in Section III.

112. SERVICE MESSAGE

- a. A service message is one between communication personnel pertaining to any phase of traffic handling, communication facilities, or circuit conditions.
- b. An encrypted service message will always carry a numerical group count and will be identified as a service message only within the encrypted text.
- c. Plain language service messages are identified by the abbreviation SVC as the first word of the text following any security classification.
- d. Service messages are prepared and transmitted in plaindress, abbreviated plaindress or codress form. They generally concern messages originated at, destined for, or refiled by, that station and normally will be assigned a precedence equal to that of the message to which they refer.

113. ABBREVIATED SERVICE MESSAGE

- a. An abbreviated service message is one in which the text contains only prosigns, operating signals, address designations, identification of messages, parts of messages and amplifying data as necessary. It may be originated by operators, and may contain any of the components shown in the Basic Message Format except that:
 - (1) The long break is used only if the date time group/time group is used.
- (2) The date time group/time group is to be employed only when it is necessary to indicate the time at which the message was originated or when it is considered that further reference may be made to the message.

114. CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICE AND ABBREVIATED SERVICE MESSAGES

- a. An unclassified service or abbreviated service message may be used when referring to a message classified RESTRICTED or above if only operating signals, prosigns and message or transmission identifications are used. If it is necessary to include anything that would reveal part of the text of the classified message, however, the service or abbreviated service message must be classified.
- b. An unclassified service or abbreviated service message referring to a message received in codress format or using encrypted call signs or address groups shall use only those message or transmission identifications which were contained in the external message heading received.

SECTION III - SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM

115. GENERAL

- a. Each message prepared in either plaindress, abbreviated codress or codress will have three "PARTS".
 - (1) Heading.
 - (2) Text.
 - (3) Ending.
- b. Each message "PART" has certain "COMPONENTS" which are broken down into "ELE-MENTS" and "CONTENTS".
- (1) Each message "PART" and a majority of the "COMPONENTS" and "ELEMENTS" have a standardized arrangement or sequential order of appearance.

ORIGINAL

(2) In the schematic diagram, format lines 2, 3, 4, 14, 15 and 16 identify the procedural portions of the basic message format as designed for visual communications. Lines 5 through 13 are the non-changeable elements of the basic message format. All format lines do not necessarily appear in every message, however, when used, they will be in the order indicated. (See paragraph 116.)

116. DIAGRAM

In the following diagram it should be noted that every "ELEMENT" is indicated in the order of appearance in the message. All "ELEMENTS" may not be required. The contents of the various elements are not necessarily indicated as they will appear.

PARTS	COMPONENTS	ELEMENTS	FORMAT LINE	CONTENTS		
н	4-pi 01/2004	1	1			
		A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	*	Not used.		
E	Procedure (Note 1)	Call	2	Prosign F (see paragraph 315) stations called (prosign KMT, exempted calls) prosign DE and station calling.		
λ		Transmission Identification	3	Station serial number.		
D		Transmission Instructions	4	Prosigns P, G, T, L; operating signals; call signs, address groups, plain language address designators.		
1	Freamble	Precedence	5	Precedence prosigns.		
		Date-time group	W	Date and time expressed in digits, and zone suffix followed by month indicated by the first three letters,		
N				and if required by national authorities, the year indica-		
G		Message Instructions		ted by the last two digits. Operating signals; prosign IX		
	Address (Note 2)	Originator's sign	6	Prosign PM		
н		Originator		Originator's designation (call sign, address group, plain language address designator).		
E		Action addressee sign	7	Prosign TO.		
A		Action addressed	15.	Action addressees' designations (call signs, address groups, plain language address designators).		
D		Information addressee sign	8	Prosign INFO		
ī		Information addressees		Information addressees' designations (call signs, address groups, plain language address designators).		

PARTS	COMPONENTS	ELEMENTS	FORMAT LINE	CONTENTS
N	A	Exempted addressee sign	9	Prosign XMT.
G		Exempted addressees		Exempted addressees' desig- nations (call signs, address groups, plain language address designators).
н	Prefix	Accounting	10	Accounting symbol.
E A D	Precix	information	10	Accounting aymout.
I N G		Group count		Prosign GR (numerals) or GRNC.
	SEPARATION		11	Prosign BT
T E X	Text	Subject matter	12	Security classification or UNCLAS as appropriate when required; the abbreviation SVC; internal instructions; thought or idea as expressed by the originator.
	SEPARATION		13	Prosign BT
£	Procedure	Time group	14	Hours and minutes expressed in digits, and zone suffix.
N D I N		Pinal instructions	15	Prosigns AS, B, C, G, TMI, GR (numerals), TX (5 second flash), operating signals.
G:		Ending sign	16	Prosign K or AR.

NOTE 1: Plain language address designators shall not be used in any component of codress messages.

NOTE 2: The address component is prohibited with codress prodedure.

117. EXPLANATION

- a. Line 2 This line will contain, as required, the call signs/address groups of the stations called; the prosign XMT, exempted call signs/address groups, the prosign DE and the call sign/address group of the calling station. It may be preceded by the prosign F, made four times.
 - b. Line 3 Not normally used in visual signaling except in messages being relayed.
- c. Line 4 This line may contain the prosigns F, G, L and T; operating signals, call signs, address groups, or plain language address designators.
- d. Line 5 This line will contain the appropriate precedence prosigns (in the case of dual precedence, both prosigns will be shown), the originator's date-time-group, message instructions in the form of operating signals and the prosign IX as necessary.
- e. Line 6 This line is identified by the appearance of the prosign FM and contains the designation of the originator which may be indicated by a call sign, address group or plain language address designator.

- f. Line 7 This line is identified by the prosign TO and contains the designation of the action addressees in the form of call signs, address groups, or plain language address designators.
- g. Line 8 This line is identified by the prosign INFO and contains the designation of the information addressees in the form of call signs, address groups, or plain language address designators.
- h. Line 9 This line is identified by the prosign XMT and contains the designation of the addressees who are exempted from the collective designation when such designation is used in format line 7 and 8.
- i. Line 10 This line may contain accounting symbols (as required), the group count prosign and numerals and the groups not counted prosign. Encrypted messages will always indicate a numerical group count.
- j. Line ll This line contains the prosign \overline{BT} which separates the heading from the text.
- k. Line 12 This is the text of the message and may contain internal instructions as well as the subject matter expressed by the originator. It may be preceded by the security classification or UNCLAS as appropriate and the abbreviation SVC.
- Line 13 This line contains the prosign BT which separates the text from the message ending.
- m. Line 14 This line, when used, will contain the time group expressed in hours and minutes plus the zone suffix. (Used only in abbreviated plaindress if no time group is carried in format line 5).
- n. Line 15 This line is identified by the appearance of the prosigns $\overline{\text{AS}}$, B, C, G, GR (numerals), $\overline{\text{IMI}}$, $\overline{\text{IX}}$ (5 second flash), operating signals and station designations as required.
- o. Line 16 This line is identified by the appearance of the prosign K or \overline{AR} . Every transmission must end with the prosign K or \overline{AR} as appropriate, except as noted in paragraph 605.f.

PLATE I SEMAPHORE CHARACTERS

^ ₹	E D	C ANSWERING SIGN	n jack	₹ E
F	dGas ∈	म्	1	J DIRECTION SIGN
×	A L	м		•
P	7	R	S	7
7	E v	F	K x	Je
ž.	ATTENTION SIGN	ERROR SIGN	FRONT SIGN	NUMERAL SIGN

72 3 SEPARATIVE SIGN

NOTE: In certain characters, the signs may be formed with the position of the arms reversed.

ALPHABETICAL AND NUMERAL FLAGS

FLAG and NAME	Spoken	Written	FLAG and NAME	Spoken	Written	FLAG and NAME	Spoken	Written
A	ALFA	А	X	MIKE	М	Y	YANKEE	Y
B	BRAVO	В		NOVEMBER	N	Z	ZULU	Z
C	CHARLIE	C	0	OSCAR	0	ONE	ONE	1
D	DELTA	D	P	PAPA	Р	TWO	TWO	2
E	ECHO	E	0	QUEBEC	Q	THREE	THREE	3
F	FOXTROT	F	R	ROMEO	R	FOUR	FOUR	4
G	GOLF	G	S	SIERRA	s	FIVE	FIVE	5
Н	HOTEL	Н		TANGO	1	SIX	SIX	6
•	INDIA	1	U	UNIFORM	U	SEVEN	SEVEN	7
	JULIETT	1	X	VICTOR	٧	EIGHT	EIGHT	8
K	KILO	К	w	WHISKEY	w	NINE	NINE	9
	LIMA	ι	+	XRAY	х	ZERO	ZERO	ø

NUMERAL PENNANTS

SPECIAL FLAGS AND PENNANTS

PENNANT and NAME	Spoken	Written	PENNANT OF FLAG	Spoken	Written	PENNANT or FLAG	Spoken	Written
	PENNANT ONE	p1	CODE OF ANSWER	CODE or ANSWER	CODE or	PREPARATIVE	PREP	PREP
2	PENNANT TWO	p2	CORPEN	CORPEN	CORPEN	PORT	PORT	PORT
3	PENNANT THREE	р3	DESIG- NATION	DESIG	DESIG	SCREEN	SCREEN	SCREEN
	PENNANT FOUR	р4	DIVISION	DIV	DIV	SPEED	SPEED	SPEED
5	PENNANT FIVE	р5	EMERGENCY	EMERGENCY	EMERG	SQUADRON	SQUAD	SQUAD
6	PENNANT SIX	p6	GROUP/ FLOTILLA	GROUP/ FLOT	GROUP/ FLOT	STARBOARD	STARBOARD	STBD
7	PENNANT SEVEN	р7	FORMATION	FORMATION	FORM	STATION	STATION	STATION
	PENNANT EIGHT	p8	INTER- ROGATIVE	INTER- ROGATIVE	INT	SUBDIVISION	SUBDIV	SUBDIV
9	PENNANT NINE	р9	NEGATIVE	NEGAT	NEGAT	TURN	TURN	TURN
	PENNANT	рВ			SUBSTI	TUTES		
B	ZERO		FIRST	FIRST SUB	1st.	THIRD SUBSTITUTE	THIRD Sub	3rd,
TACKLINE	TACK	لـــــ	SECOND SUBSTITUTE	SECOND SUB	2nd.	FOURTH SUBSTITUTE	FOURTH SUB	4th.

CHAPTER 2

VISUAL CALL SIGNS

SECTION I - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

201. DEPINITIONS

- a. Address Group A group of four letters, or letters and numerals, assigned to represent command(s), authority(ies), activity(ies), unit(s), or geographic location(s); used primarily for the addressing of communications, but may be used as a call sign for establishing and maintaining communications.
- b. Call Sign Any combination of characters or pronounceable word(s) which identifies a communication facility(ies), command(s), authority(ies), activity(ies), unit(s); used primarily for establishing and maintaining communications.
 - c. Visual Call Sign A call sign provided primarily for visual signaling.

282. NATURE OF VISUAL CALL SIGNS

Visual call signs are shorter than the other call signs or address groups assigned to an organization. This advantage is highly significant in determining the length of a flaghoist, and is also useful in reducing the transmission time of messages by other visual means.

203. USES OF VISUAL CALL SIGNS

- a. Visual call signs contained herein may be used:
 - (1) To establish visual communications between organizations.
- (2) In the transmission instructions and address of a message which will be transmitted solely by visual means. (See paragraph 284.b.)
- (3) For transmitting groups from authorized signal books, visual call signs are used:
- (a) To address ships, units or commands, in which case they precede the
- (b) To complete, amplify, or vary the meaning of a signal, in which case they are used in conjunction with the signal concerned.
- (c) To denote or indicate ships, units or commands in which case they follow the signal.

284. RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF VISUAL CALL SIGNS

- a. Collective Call Signs When employed, collective call signs contained herein:
 - (1) Apply only to ships present.
- (2) Include the commander of any organization or group and all subordinate commanders therein.
- b. Visual Call Signs Will not be used in the transmission instructions or address of message to be transmitted or relayed by other than visual means.
 - c. Reference Table:

MEANS OF TRAN		CALL	ADDRESS	TEXT
Visual Means	Flaghoist	Yes	**	Yes
	Flashing Light	Yes	Yes	No*
	Semaphore	Yes	Yes	No*
Other Means	Radiotelephone	No	No	No*
	Radiotelegraph	No	No	No*

- * Visual Call Signs may be used when text consists of signal groups.
- ** Call serves as the address in flaghoist.

265. OTHER CALL SIGNS WHICH MAY BE USED FOR VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS

- a. In addition to the call signs contained in this publication, the following call signs are authorized for use in visual communications:
 - (1) Radio Call Signs (except Radiotelephone).
 - (2) International Call Signs (Signal letters).
 - (3) Tactical Call Signs.
 - (4) Collective Call Signs.
 - (5) Indefinite Call Signs.
 - (6) Task Organization Call Signs.
 - (7) Plain Language Addresses.
- b. Address Groups may be used as call signs by Coast Guard and Navy commands (except in non-military communications).

206. TRANSMISSION OF VISUAL CALL SIGNS

- a. In constructing visual calls to be transmitted by flaghoist, numerals are expressed by numeral pennants, except when numeral flags are specifically indicated (see paragraph 214). Numerals appearing in visual call signs transmitted by any visual means other than flaghoist represent numeral pennants, and are written as pl, p2, p6, p7, etc., to distinguish them from numeral flags.
- b. By any visual means other than flaghoist, call signs are transmitted using their Morse or semaphore equivalents. All call signs (except Radiotelephone call signs) in the text of signals from an authorized signal book, are preceded by the special sign PT transmitted as a Morse symbol or semaphore equivalent meaning "Call Sign Follows." If more than one such call sign is included in the text, each will be preceded by PT.

EXAMPLES: (Text of signals)

- Call sign of Cruiser 46 is transmitted asPT C46
- Call signs of Cruisers 46 and 47 are transmitted as
 PT C46 PT C47
- c. Call signs in the text of signals may be spelled out when conditions make this advisable. Call signs spelled out are to be preceded by "PT" as in b. above.

EXAMPLE:

Call sign of Cruiser 46 is transmitted ... "PT Charlie Four Six."

267. PLAGS AND PENNANTS USED

- a. Non-military signal stations and ships use the International flags and pennants for flaghoist signaling.
- b. Naval ships and naval visual signal stations use the naval special flags and pennants in addition to the International flags and pennants. (See ATP 1, Vol. II and Plate II)

208. CONSTRUCTION OF MESSAGE HEADINGS

- a. Information required for the construction of visual headings is found in Chapters 1 and 8.
 - b. Particular attention should be given to:
- The use of the prosign XMT in collective call by semaphore and flashing light.
 - (2) The use of flag "W" and the NEGATIVE pennant in flaghoist headings.

ORIGINAL

SECTION II - INDIVIDUAL SHIP CALLS

289. INTERNATIONAL CALL SIGNS (SIGNAL LETTERS)

The International Call Sign (Signal Letters) may, and normally will be used to establish visual communication with an allied ship. This does not preclude the use of other call signs between allied ships operating together.

218. VISUAL CALLS AND SHORTENED VISUAL CALLS

- a. Visual Calls for ships are either specifically assigned nationally and listed in supplements to ACP 129 or may be constructed utilizing the appropriate single letter type indicator as outlined in paragraph 216 and identification numbers of the vessels as contained in ACP 113. When it results that two vessels operating together have the same Visual Call, the International Call Signs (Signal Letters) of the vessels are to be used.
- b. Shortened Visual Calls for ships are constructed by omitting unnecessary numbers of the Visual Calls. Such calls must be used with caution, particularly in crowded harbors and extensive anchorages where confusion may arise.

EXAMPLES:

NAN	ME OF VESSEL	Assigned Visual Call	May be Called
1.	HMS ILLUSTRIOUS (CV 06)	Вр Øр6	Rp0p6, Rp6 or GVUH
2.	HMS NOTTINGHAM (DLG 91)	Dp9p1	Dp9pl, Dp1 or GZIR
3.	HMS BOXER (FF 92)	Fp9p2	Fp9p2, Fp2 or GBBK
4.	USS RALEIGH (LPD 1)	Lp1	Lpl, NQCE

SECTION III - MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS APLOAT

211. UNIT INDICATOR CALL SIGNS

a. Call signs for organized Groups/Flotillas, Squadrons, Divisions and Sub-Divisions of ships may be constructed as follows:

(1) SUBDIV SUBDIVISION
DIV....This DIVISION
SQUAD SQUADRON
GROUP/FLOT GROUP/FLOTILLA

EXAMPLE: DIV......This Division

(2) SUBDIV SUBDIVISION
Type DIV Numeral Type DIVISION Number
Indicator SQUAD Pennants SQUADRON
GROUP/FLOT GROUP/FLOTILLA

EXAMPLE: R DIV p4 4

D GROUP/FLOT plDestroyer Group/Flotilla 1

(3) In the preceding example the type indicator may be omitted if no confusion will arise.

EXAMPLE: D DIV p2p2 may be signaled as DIV p2p2.

b. Other publications provide address groups for division, squadron, and group/flotilla organizations. These address groups will be used when confusion as to unit called will arise, i.e., LST DIVISION 11, and LSU DIVISION 11, visual call sign L DIV plp1, operating within visual communication range of each other.

c. Visual Commander Call Signs

To form the visual call sign of the commander of an organized Group/Flotilla, Squadron, Division or Sub-Division of ships the unit indicator is followed by the type indicator.

EXAMPLES:

SQUAD D	Commander this Destroyer Squadron Commander this Carrier Division
GROUP/FLOT Dp2	Commander Destroyer Group/Flotilla 2 Commander Crusier Destroyer Group/ Flotilla 9

d. The call sign for a group of ships associated with an individual ship that is not organized as a Task Unit or element is constructed by prefixing Sub Div to the call sign of the identifying ship. The command call is constructed by prefixing the ship's call to Sub Div.

EXAMPLES:

```
SUBDIV Rp@p5..... HMS EAGLE Sub Division
SUBDIV Rplp4..... USS TICONDEROGA Sub Division
Rplp4 SUBDIV...... Commander TICONDEROGA Sub Division
```

212. NUMERAL PENNANT CALL SIGNS

- a. These visual call signs may be used alone or followed by the type indicator and/or unit indicator.
- b. To form commander visual call signs, the below listed collective visual call signs are preceded by $p\theta$.
- c. The collective visual call sign of the command includes the commander thereof and all subordinate commanders therein.

CALL		CALL	
SIGN	MEANING	SIGN	MEANING
pø	(Singly) My Immediate Super- ior in Tactical Command	P3p1	All Units This Column (or Column indicated by numeral
pø	Commander of (Type and/or Unit)	p3p2	pennant(s) following) Amphibious Force
papa	Commanders Under My Command	p3p3	ASW Carrier Group
p@pl	Officer in Tactical Command	p3p4	ASW Covering Group
p1	All Ships Under My Tactical	p3p5	Attack Force (Group)
	Command	p3p6	Battle Line
p2	All Ships	p3p7	Carrier Group
p3	Main Body	p3p8	Carrier Sup
P4	This Line	p3p9	Carriers and Rescue
p5	Screen		Destroyers
P6	This Task Force	p4p8	Center Group
p7	This Task Group	p4pl	Close Covering Group
p8	This Task Unit	p4p2	Convoy (to indicate or
p9	This Task Element		denote)
plps	All Task Force Commanders	p4p3	Demonstration Force Group
plpl	All Task Group Commanders	p4p4	Detached Wing
plp2	All Task Unit Commanders	p4p5**	
plp3	All Task Element Commanders	p4p6**	
plp4**		p4p7**	
plp5**		p4p8**	
plp6**		p4p9**	
plp7**		p5p@**	
plp8**		p5pl	Entering/Leaving Harbor
plp9**			Group No. 1
p2p8	Advance Force (Group)	p5p2	Entering/Leaving Harbor
p2p1*	All Units on Circle 1		Group No. 2
p2p2*	All Units on Circle 2	p5p3	Entering/Leaving Harbor
p2p3*	All Units on Circle 3		Group No. 3
p2p4*	All Units on Circle 4	p5p4	OF THE PROPERTY OF
p2p5*	All Units on Circle 5	p5p5	Escort Force (Group)
p2p6*	All Units on Circle 6	p5p6	Fire Support Group (Unit)
p2p7*	All Units on Circle 7	p5p7	Flank Groups (Both Flanks)
p2p8*	All Units on Circle 8	p5p8	Flank Group (Left)
p2p9*	All Units on Circle 9	p5p9	Plank Group (Right)
p3p8	All Units in This Exercise	p6p8	Fueling Units (Oilers)
2-2-		- X-	

CALL		CALL	
SIGN	MEANING	SIGN	MEANING
p6pl	Fueling Group (Ship Fueling)	p8p1	Service Line (First)
p6p2	Hunter/Killer Group	p8p2	Service Line (Second)
P6P3	Logistic Support Group	p8p3	Serivce Line (Third)
p6p4	Minelaying Group	p8p4	Senior Officer Present
p6p5	Minesweeping Group[Afloat (SOPA)
рбрб	THE SECTION OF THE SE	p8p5	Senior Officer Present
p6p7			Afloat (Administrative)
p6p8	Patrol Group	p8p6	Striking Force (Group)
p6p9	Pickets	p8p7	Support Force (Group)
p7p8	Pouncers	p8p8	Surface Action Force (Group)
p7pl	Reconnaissance Group (Unit)	p8p9	Search Attack Unit (SAU)
p7p2	Replenishment Force (Group)	p9p8	Transport Group
p7p3	Rescue Destroyer(s)	p9p1	Waiting Line (First)
p7p4	Reserve Force (Group)	p9p2	Waiting Line (Second)
p7p5	Reserve Replenishment Group (Unit)	p9p3 p9p4**	Waiting Line (Third)
P7p6	Retirement Group	p9p5**	
P7p7	Screening Group	p9p6**	
p7p8	Screening Units under My Command	p9p7** p9p8**	
p7p9	Scouting Group	p9p9**	
papa	Search and Rescue Group	5555	

* Units on a partial circle may be indicated by a third pennant.
** For Local Assignment by Task Force Commanders or Higher Authority.

EXAMPLES:

213. CONVOY VISUAL CALL SIGNS

Convoy Visual Call Signs are contained in ATP 2, VOL II or appropriate national or regional defense organization publications.

214. SPECIAL TASK ORGANIZATION CALL SIGNS (FLAGHOIST ONLY)

- a. The visual call signs given below may be used in FLAGHOIST communications as short call signs within a task organization. These call signs always begin with a numeral flag followed by numeral pennant(s) which indicate the number of the task organization.
 - b. Type indicators may be used following the call sign.
 - c. Table of Task Organization Visual Call Signs:

CALL SIGN	MEANING
9	Commander Task Force No.
1	*Commander Task Group No.
2	*Commander Task Unit No.
3	*Commander Task Element No.
4	Commander Fleet
5	No.
6	Task Force No.
7	*Task Group No.
8	*Task Unit No.
9	*Task Element No.
* Withi	n own Task Organization

EXAMPLES:

- 6p4p5 Task Force 45
 8p3 Task Unit 3 (Within Own Task Group)
 9p2D Destroyers of Task Blement 2 (Within Own Task Unit)
- 4. 3p6 Commander Task Element 6 (Within Own Task Unit)

SECTION IV - SINGLE LETTER TYPE INDICATORS

215. SINGLE LETTER TYPE INDICATORS

One or two Letter Type Indicators may be used following the One or Two Numeral Pen-nant Call Signs and the Special Task Organization Numeral Flag Call Signs.

EXAMPLES:

- p2D All Destroyers
- 6p4pSD Destroyers of Task Force 45
 p8CD Commander Cruiser Destroyer

216. SINGLE LETTER TYPE INDICATORS

- A list of Single Letter Type Indicators is given below:
 - A Auxiliary (Oiler, Cargo, Tender, Floating Dry Dock, Sloop, etc.)
 - B Battleship
 - C Cruiser
 - D Destroyer/Destroyer Escort
 - P Frigate
 - G Government Station (See paragraph 217)
 - H Visual Signal Station (Military) (See paragraph 219)
 - K Shore Signal Station (Commercial) (See paragraph 218)/Miscellaneous Fleet units (NATO use only)
 - L Assualt Vessel (Landing Craft, Amphibious Transport Dock, Tank Landing Ship, etc.)
 - M Minesweeper
 - N Minelayer
 - P Fast Motor Craft (Submarine Chaser, Patrol Escort, Motor Gunboat, Motor Torpedo Boat, etc.)
 - Q Boat (See paragraph 220)
 - R Aircraft Carrier
 - S Submarine
 - W Coast Guard Ship
 - X Submersible Craft
 - Y Yard Service Craft

SECTION V - SHORE SIGNAL STATIONS

217. GOVERNMENT SIGNAL STATIONS

Government signal stations on shore or on lightships use "G" as the visual call sign to call any or all or the senior man of war.

218. SHORE SIGNAL STATIONS (COMMERCIAL)

In compliance with International procedure, the letter "K (with compliment if desired)" is used to call or address shore stations.

219. SIGNAL STATIONS (MILITARY)

In order to standardize the visual call signs for military signal stations, the following assignments are reserved for the signal stations indicated.

SIGN	MEANING	CALL	MEANING
Нря	Commander in Chief	Hplp9	Degaussing Station No. 4
Hp1	HECP/PWSS (Main Signal Station)	Hp2p0 Hp2p1	Deperming Station No. 1 Deperming Station No. 2
Hp2	HECP/PWSS (Secondary/Aux- iliary Signal Station)	Hp2p2	and and an
Hp3	Port Director	Hp2p3	
Hp4	Senior Officer Present	complete the control of the control	
	Afloat (SOPA) (When ashore)	Hp2p4	
Hp5	SOPA Administrative (When		
	ashore)	Hp2p5	
Hp6	Flag Officer, Second in Command		
Hp7	Commander Naval District	Нр2р6	
Hp8	Commander Naval Base	U=2-7	
Hp9	Commander Naval Operating	Нр2р7	
mp2	Base	Un 2 n D	
Hp1p@	Commander Naval Shipyard	Нр2р8	
Hplpl	Commander Sea Frontier	tte 2m0	
Hplp2	Commander Air Station	Нр2р9	
Hplp3	Commander Amphibious Base	United 1	Manager of Francisco V Control
Hplp4	Commander Section Base	Hp3pØ)	Reserved for Local Assign-
Hplp5	Commander Section Base		ment by competent authority
Hplp6		to)	to shore signal stations not
	Degaussing Station No. 1		covered herein.
Hplp7 Hplp8	Degaussing Station No. 2	Hp9p9)	
"FTP0	Degaussing Station No. 3		

SECTION VI - SHIPS' BOATS

226. BOAT CALL ASSIGNMENTS

The below listed visual call signs are assigned for ships' boats. Numeral flag(s) following the call sign indicates the individual number of the boat. To call another ship's boat, the call of the parent ship is to be hoisted below the boat call.

CALL SIGN

QP#		All Boats
Qp1		Admiral's Barge
Qp2		Chief of Staff Barge of Gig
Qp3		Staff Gigs or Motorboats
Qp4		Captain's Gig
Qp5		Boats under power
Qp6		Boats under sail
Qp7		Boats under oars
Qp8)	Reserved for local assignment by Commanding
to)	Officers. Calls are generated according to
Qp5p8)	Boat numbers.

EXAMPLES:

Qp4Rplp4 Carrier 14 Captain's Gig
 Qp52 Power Boat No. 2 (own Ship)

CHAPTER 3

OPERATING SIGNALS AND PROSIGNS

SECTION I - GENERAL

301. OPERATING SIGNALS

Operating signals consist of the Z and Q codes and will be used in accordance with instructions contained in ACP 131.

302. PROCEDURE SIGN (PROSIGN)

One or more letters or characters or combinations thereof, used to facilitate communication by conveying, in a condensed standard form, certain frequently used orders, instructions, requests and information relating to communications.

303. List of Prosigns

Below is a complete list of prosigns which are authorized for use in visual signaling. No others may be used. An overscore (a line over two or more letters) indicates that the letters overscored are to be transmitted as a single character, that is, without pause between letters. Description and use of the following prosigns are set forth in subsequent paragraphs.

Prosign	Meaning
ĀĀ	Onknown station (flashing light only)
AA	All after
AB	All before
AR	End of transmission
AS	Wait
В	More to follow
BT	Long break
c	Correct/Correction
c	breves sign (annual section
D	Answer sign (semaphore only) (See paragraph 710)
DE	Reduce brilliancy or use smaller light From
EEEEEEE	Brror
F	Do not answer
FM	Originator's sign
G	Repeat back
GR (numeral)	
GRNC	Group count
HM (3 times)	Groups not counted
II	Emergency silence sign
IMT	Separative sign
INFO	
INT	Information addressee sign
TX	Interrogatory
TX (5 second flash)	Execute to follow
J (5 Second Flash)	Executive signal
K	Verify with originator and repeat
T.	Invitation to transmit
NEGAT	Relay or relayed (flashing and semaphore only)
and and	Exempted addressee sign (flaghoist only) (See
NR	paragraph 807)
0	Number
o c	Immediate
OL .	Show steady dim light (flashing light
D.	only) (See paragraph 607.f)
PT	Priority
FI	Call sign follows (flashing light and semaphore
R	only) (See paragraphs 609 and 707)
R	Received
T	Routine
TO	Transmit to
W	Action addressee sign
1.00	Information addressee sign (flaghoist only) (See
w	paragraph 807)
WA	Your light is unreadable (flashing light only) Word after
WB	Word before
	MOLG DEFOLE

Exempted addressee sign XMT.

2

SECTION II - DESCRIPTION AND USE OF PROSIGNS

384. AA "UNKNOWN STATION" (FLASHING LIGHT ONLY)

 \overline{AA} is used in lieu of a call sign in establishing communication with a station whose call sign is not known or is not recognized. Instructions for use of \overline{AA} are given in paragraph 687.a.

385. AA "ALL AFTER"

AA is used after IMI, INT, C, J, and certain operating signals to identify a certain portion of a message. (See paragraph 419.a.)

306. AB "ALL BEFORE"

AB is used in the same manner as AA.

307. AR "END OF TRANSMISSION"

This prosign means, "This is the end of my transmission to you and no response is ed or expected." (In directional flashing procedure, however, a flash for this required or expected." prosign must be given.) (See paragraph 602.)

398. AS "WAIT

AS made during a transmission and without an ending sign indicates a short

EXAMPLE:

R34 DE C69

- R - 1020302 NOV GR5 BT

JOIN CONVOY AT POINT AS

When ready to continue the message, the transmitting ship repeats the last word, group or prosign already transmitted and then proceeds with the remainder of the transmission.

- b. AS followed by AR means, "You are to wait," or "I am obliged to wait," as applicable.
- c. A station having received AS shall wait for K, preceded if required by a call, before transmitting, unless in the meantime he has been given a message of higher precedence to transmit, or it appears he has been overlooked.

309. B "MORE TO FOLLOW"

B, used alone in the final instructions means "More to follow to all stations called."

> EXAMPLE: R22 indicating that she has more to send to all ships of the screen, transmits:

> > 5 DB R22

- R - 100930Z NOV GR37 DT TEXT BT B K

b. In the final instructions, B followed by call signs means "More to follow to stations indicated."

EXAMPLE: 5 DE R22

- R - 1889382 NOV GR37 BT TEXT BT B D32 D46 K

c. B can be used by a receiving station to indicate that she has traffic for the transmitting station.

EXAMPLE: R B K

d. B can be used in exceptionally long messages, which may be broken down in groups of 50 to allow the recipient to obtain repetitions and corrections prior to proceeding with the next portion of text.

EXAMPLE: F5 DE R22

- R - 1009302 NOV

GR109

TEXT (58 groups sent)

B 50 K

(F5 checks message. If satisfied, he acknowledges receipt of first 50 groups. R22 then sends "-51-" and continues

with the message

310. BT "LONG BREAK"

BT is used to indicate the separation between the text and other parts of a message. It immediately precedes and follows the text. In abbreviated service messages the BT is not used except when a date-time/time group is employed.

311. C "CORRECT"

C used alone means, "You are correct." C followed by identification data means, "This is a correct version of the message or portion indicated." Instructions for use of C are given in Chapter 4, Section V.

312. D "REDUCE BRILLIANCY OR USE SMALLER LIGHT" (PLASHING LIGHT ONLY)

D is used between operators when it is required to inform a transmitting operator that his light is too large or too bright.

EXAMPLE: As dusk falls D87 is transmitting to R34.

R34 informs D87 that his light is unnecessarily bright

Ds (as required).

D87 will adjust his light until R34 sends K.

313. DE "FROM"

- a. DE is used only in the call and means, "This transmission is from the station whose designation follows."
- b. Instructions on calling and answering for the different methods of visual signaling are given in Chapters 6 through 9.

314. EEEEEEEE "ERROR"

- a. To correct errors, a succession of eight or more Es is transmitted and means, "An error in transmission has just been made." (The phrase "eight or more Es" is intended to facilitate operation and shall not be construed as permitting transmission of an excessive number of Es.) In correcting errors in the heading, the error sign will be followed by the last prosign or operating signal correctly sent. Within the text the error sign will be followed by the last word or group correctly sent. Within the text of signals taken from a naval signal book, the error sign will be followed by BT or the last TACK correctly sent. The operator then continues with the correct version.
- b. To cancel a transmission during transmission, a succession of eight or more Es followed by the prosign AR means, "This transmission is in error, disregard it." This method of cancelling a transmission cannot be used after the transmission has been completed.

315. F "DO NOT ANSWER"

F transmitted four times preceding a call and once in the transmission instructions means, "Stations called are not to answer this call or to receipt for this message." This is known as "no response" procedure. Messages containing the prosign F are to be transmitted twice. Each transmission of the message will be separated by the prosign TMI. (See paragraphs 607.d and 603.a.(6).)

316. FM "ORIGINATOR'S SIGN"

FM means, "The originator of this message is indicated by the designation immediately following." (See paragraph 414.)

317. G "REPEAT BACK"

- a. G is normally placed in the transmission instructions. It is used by the transmitting station to ensure that the receiving station has received the message as transmitted, particularly if the message is of great importance or of a type which is difficult to transmit or receive. If, during the transmission of a message, it is decided that the use of G is necessary, it may be placed in the final instructions.
- b. G alone means, "All stations called repeat back the message." G preceded by call sign means, "Stations indicated repeat back the message."
- c. The station repeating a message shall repeat the whole message, including the original call, except when only one station was originally called.

EXAMPLE A: (Prosign G in heading)

C42 desires D56 to repeat back a message, transmits:

D56 DE C42 - G -0 - 2218122 NOV GR10 BT TEXT BT K

D56 complies as follows:

- G -0 - 221812Z NOV GR10 BT TEXT BT K

C42 transmits:

CAR

If D56 has repeated the date-time group incorrectly, C42 would transmit:

C O TO GR10 -O - 221812Z NOV GR10 K

D56 need only receipt for the corrected portion unless otherwise directed.

EXAMPLE B: (Prosign G in heading, directed ships only repeating)

Commander Task Unit transmits a message to the Task Unit and directs D32 and D34 to repeat back:

8 DE 08 - D32 D34 - G -P - 232125Z NOV GRI# BT TEXT BT K

D32 and D34 repeat the message as in Example A above except that the original call must be included. When non-directional procedure is used other stations receipt for the message or request repetitions after the repeat back has been completed, otherwise the message is receipted for in the normal manner.

EXAMPLE C: (Prosign G in ending)

Having completed transmission of the heading D32 desires D34 to repeat back the message:

D34 DE D32 - 0 - 2223242 NOV GR18 BT TEXT BT G K

D34 repeats the message as in Example A above.

d. A further application of G to instruct a receiving station to repeat a word, limited to flashing light signaling, is explained in paragraph 61g.

318. GR (NUMERALS) "GROUP COUNT"

- a. GR followed by numerals is the group count and means, "This message contains the number of groups indicated."
- b. The group count normally appears in the message prefix, but in certain cases may appear in the final instructions. When a message is transmitted before the group count is determined, the prosign GRNC may be used in lieu of the group count. The actual group count will then be transmitted in the final instructions and inserted in the message prefix by the receiving operator.
 - c. Purther instructions on the use of GR are given in Chapter 4, Section III.

319. GRNC "GROUPS NOT COUNTED"

GRNC means, "The groups in this message have not been counted." This prosign is included in the prefix if it is necessary to indicate that the groups have not been counted. It will be included in messages bearing an accounting symbol when the groups are not counted.

328. HM (TRANSMITTED THREE TIMES) "EMERGENCY SILENCE SIGN"

- a. Emergency silence may be imposed or lifted by a station only when authorized by competent authority. Emergency silence is not normally used in visual signaling.
- b. When an authentication system is in force a station must always authenticate a transmission which:
 - (1) Imposes emergency silence.
 - (2) Lifts emergency silence.
 - (3) Calls stations during a period of emergency silence.

NOTE: When transmission is by visual means and there is no doubt as to identity of stations, authentication is not necessary.

- c. Stations do not answer or receipt for a transmission imposing emergency silence. Thereafter, until directed to resume, stations may transmit only as directed by competent authority or for transmission of an enemy contact report.
- d. HM transmitted three times means: "Cease transmissions immediately. Silence will be maintained until directed to resume." HM HM HM must be followed by amplifying data, e.g., visual means affected, frequency or frequency designator.
- (1) After a call HN HM HM followed by the operating signal ZJM means, "Stations addressed immediately cease all transmissions by visual means indicated."

EXAMPLE

To impose emergency silence on directional flashing light C69 transmits:

2 DE C69 HM HM HM ZJM13* KK

*ZJM13 means "directional flashing light"

(2) After a call HM HM HM followed by a frequency designator means, "Stations

320.d.(2) (Continued)

addressed immediately cease all transmissions on frequency ... (or that indicated by frequency designator)."

EXAMPLES:

To silence R82 on 2700 kHz only C69 transmits:

R82 DE C69 HM HM HM 2788 AR

To silence all on frequency indicated by designator B4, C69 transmits:

2 DE C69 HM HM HM B4 AR

e. Emergency silence is lifted by addressing the stations concerned and transmitting the operating signal ZUG, meaning "Negative," followed by HM HM HM and amplifying data.

EXAMPLES:

To lift emergency silence on directional flashing light C69 transmits:

2 DE C69 ZUG HM HM HM ZJM13 AR

To lift emergency silence for R82 on 2700 kHz only C69 transmits:

R82 DE C69 ZUG HM HM HM 2700 AR

To lift emergency silence for all on frequency indicated by designator B4, C69 transmits:

2 DE C69 ZUG HM HM HM B4 AR

321. II "SEPARATIVE SIGN"

- a. II, written as a short dash, is used to prevent mistakes in reception which might occur if letters or figures of adjacent groups are run together.
- b. In non-directional flashing light and semaphore the separative sign is used as follows:
- (1) Before and after all prosigns in the procedure and preamble components of the heading except DE, $\lambda\lambda$, NR and \overline{IX} .
- (2) To separate each element of the address component, i.e., preceeding the prosigns PM, TO, INFO and XMT.
- (3) Between the call and the beginning of the repetition of a message to be repeated back.
- (4) To separate the address component from the prefix when an accounting symbol is used.
- (5) To separate call signs belonging to adjacent message elements for adjacent multiple transmission instructions.
 - (6) To separate portions of the text in abbreviated service messages.
 - (7) Between code groups when being sent by flashing light.
- c. In directional flashing light procedure where a flash is given for every word, group or prosign the separative sign need not be used except to avoid ambiguity.
- d. A study of examples throughout this publication will illustrate the use of the separative sign.

322. IMI "REPEAT"

- a. IMI means, "Repeat, or I repeat, message or portions of a message as indicated."
- b. IMI without identification data means, "Repeat all of your last transmission."
- c. IMI followed by identification data means, "Repeat the indicated portion of your transmission."
- d. Further instructions on the use of TMI to obtain repetitions are given in paragraphs 418 and 419. TMI is never used to obtain a repetition after a message has been receipted for.
- e. In the text of a plain language message TMI means, "I am going to repeat the difficult portion just transmitted." In the text of a message TMI may also indicate a question mark.
- f. Where messages are made twice through, the two transmissions are separated by

EXAMPLE: R5 DE R6
- R - 1618222 NOV
GR22 BT
TEXT BT
IMI
R5 DE R6
- R - 1618222 NOV
GR22 BT
TEXT BT
AR

IMI shall not be used to correct an error in transmission.

323. INFO "INFORMATION ADDRESSEE SIGN"

INFO means, "Information addressees are indicated by the designations immediately following." (See paragraph 414.)

324. INT "INTERROGATORY"

a. INT preceding operating signals or prosigns indicates that the transmission is in the form of a question.

EXAMPLE:

F73 desires to know if D46 has traffic for him, transmits:

D46 DE F73 INT QRU* K

*INT QRU means, "Have you anything for me?"

b. INT preceding a portion of a message means, "Is my reception of this correct?" EXAMPLES:

D46 asks F73, "Is the word after 'ships,' 'boats'?"

F73 DE D46 INT WA SHIPS - BOATS K

D46 asks F73, "Is the date-time group as indicated?"

P73 DE D46 INT 3181262 DEC K

- c. $\overline{\text{INT}}$ may be used in conjunction with the group count prosign as set forth in paragraph 413.
- d. TNT cannot be used to question any part of a message for which a receipt has been given. An abbreviated service message will be used for this purpose.

325. IX "EXECUTE TO FOLLOW"

The uses of the execute to follow prosign are set forth under "The Executive Method" in Chapter 6.

326. IX (5 second flash) "EXECUTIVE SIGNAL"

The uses of the executive signal, a 5 second flash preceded by IX, are set forth under "The Executive Method" in Chapter 6.

327. J "VERIFY WITH ORIGINATOR AND REPEAT"

Used only as prescribed in Chapter 4, Section V.

328. K "INVITATION TO TRANSMIT"

K means, "Invitation to transmit" or "This is the end of my transmission to you and a response is necessary."

329. L "RELAY" OR "RELAYED" (FLASHING LIGHT AND SEMAPHORE ONLY)

- a. The letter L in the transmission instructions means "Relay to those addressees for whom you are responsible." When final relay ships have obtained a receipt from ships for whom they are responsible, they report up the chain of visual responsibility by making L. First relaying ships only are to report to the originator. If relaying responsibility is automatic L may be omitted. This prosign will not be used when the original transmission is by "no response" procedure.
- b. L alone or with identification data means, "Message or message indicated has been delivered to all addressees for whom this station is responsible and intervening relay ships have reported delivery to ships for whom they are responsible."
- c. L preceded by $\overline{ ext{INT}}$ and followed, if necessary, with identification data means, "Have you relayed my last message or message indicated?"

EXAMPLE: INT L 1627Z means, "Have you relayed my 1627Z?"

d. Full use of prosign L is given in paragraph 686.

338. NEGAT "EXEMPTED ADDRESSEE SIGN" (PLAGHOIST ONLY)

Flaghoist equivalent of XMT. (See paragraph 887.)

331. O "IMMEDIATE"

O means "Immediate message." (See Chapter 4, Section II.)

332. P "PRIORITY"

P means "Priority message." (See Chapter 4, Section II.)

333. R "ROUTINE"

R means "Routine message." (See Chapter 4, Section II.)

334. R "RECEIVED"

- a. After a transmission which has ended with a K, R given in response means, "I have received your last transmission."
- b. After a transmission, R preceded by $\overline{\text{INT}}$ means, "Have you received my last transmission?"

EXAMPLE: INT R K

c. After a transmission, R preceded by INT and followed by identification data means, "Have you received the message indicated?"

EXAMPLE:

C95 asks N12, "Have you received R33's 1214162?"

N12 DE C95 INT R R33 1214162 DEC K

d. After receipt of a message, R followed by identification data means, "I have received the message indicated."

EXAMPLE:

N12 indicated to C95 that he has received R33's 121416Z:

C95 DE N12 R R33 1214162 DEC K

335. T "TRANSMIT TO"

- a. T, when used, shall appear in the transmission instructions.
- b. T alone means, "Station called transmit this message to all addressees in the address component."

EXAMPLE:

D48 directs F73 to transmit to all addressees:

F73 DE D48 T R 311615Z DEC FM D48 TO F73 F78 BT etc.

c. T followed by address designations means, Station called transmit this message to the addressees whose address designations follow."

EXAMPLE:

D48 directs F73 to transmit a message to A32:

F73 DE D48 T A32 R 171831Z NOV FM D48 TO A32 INFO C75 GR18 BT etc.

d. T preceded by a call sign and followed by address designations means, "Station whose call sign precedes T, transmit this message to the addressees whose address designations follow T."

EXAMPLE:

C75 calls both F73 and R33 and directs R33 to transmit message to D48:

P73 R33 DE C75 R33 -T- D48 -R- 1819272 NOV -FM C75 -TO D48 GR29 BT etc.

e. T may be modified by use of the operating signal ZWL* to denote that no forwarding action is required to the address designations which immediately follow ZWL.

EXAMPLE:

08 has transmitted a message to D32, a ship in his unit by other means. He calls D21 and directs him to relay the message but that no forwarding action is required to D32:

D21 DE 08 T ZWL D32 R 030201Z NOV FM 08 TO 03 GR15 BT etc.

"ZWL means, "No forwarding action to the designations immediately following is required."

336. T IN CODRESS MESSAGES

- a. In codress messages the stations for whom the message is intended, as a result of a particular transmission, are indicated in the transmission instructions, except that when a codress message is being passed direct to one or more stations, all of which are required to decrypt, no passing instructions are necessary.
- b. Where retransmission is involved, it is ESSENTIAL that the prosign T be followed by the designations of all stations or addressees which are required to decrypt the message as a result of that particular transmission. Thus when a station has to retransmit AND decrypt a message his designation, as well as that of the station to whom he is to retransmit the message, must follow T.

EXAMPLES:

All stations called are required to decrypt and none is required to retransmit the message:

M31 M86 N57 DE C46 -- P - 261730Z NOV GR56 BT TEXT BT K

M86 is NOT REQUIRED to decrypt but IS required to retransmit the message to P73:

M31 M86 N57 DE C46 -M86 - T - F73 - P - 2617402 NOV GR64 BT TEXT BT K

M86 is required do decrypt and ALSO to retransmit the message to F73:

M31 M86 N57 DE C46 -M86 - T - M86 F73 - P - 2617502 NOV GR60 BT TEXT BT K

337. TO "ACTION ADDRESSEE SIGN"

TO means, "Addressees indicated by the designations immediately following are addressed for action." (See paragraph 414.)

338. W "INFORMATION ADDRESSEE SIGN" (FLAGHOIST ONLY)

W, used in flaghoisting procedure is the equivalent of INFO. (See paragraphs 323 and 887.)

339. W "LIGHT UNREADABLE" (FLASHING LIGHT ONLY)

W, used in flashing light procedure, means, "Your light is unreadable." If a receiving operator is unable to read a transmitting station due to improper training of the light, or the light is of insufficient brilliance, he may indicate this by sending Ws as required. The transmitting operator will then train a steady light, increasing brilliancy if appropriate, until the receiving operator sends K.

348. WA "WORD AFTER"

WA is used after IMI, INT, C, J and certain operating signals to identify a certain portion of the text of a plain language message. (See paragraph 419.b.)

341. WB "WORD BEFORE"

WB is used in the same manner as WA. (See paragraph 419.b.)

342. XHT "EXEMPTED ADDRESSEE SIGN"

XMT means, "The stations or addressees immediately following are exempted from the collective call or address."

EXAMPLES:

In the call:

2 - XMT - A35 DE 48

In the address:

- R - 121617Z NOV FM 48 -TO 2 -XMT A35 GR28 BT etc.

343. Z "FLASH"

Z means, "Plash message." (See Chapter 4 Section II.)

CHAPTER 4

VISUAL PROCEDURE

SECTION I - GENERAL

461. TRANSMITTING TECHNIQUES AND TRANSMITTING SPEEDS

- a. Each character shall be transmitted clearly and distinctly. The speed of transmission shall be governed by the prevailing conditions and the capability of the receiving operators.
- b. Accuracy in transmission is far more important than speed. The difference in time required to send a message at 10 words per minute and that required to transmit at 15 words per minute is slight. Even this slight gain in time may be nullified by any added time required for repetitions.
- (1) The speed at which the receiving operator can copy without having to obtain repetitions is the speed at which the transmitting operator should transmit. When transmitting to more than one station the governing speed of the transmitting operator is to be that of the slowest receiving operator.
- (2) The speed of transmitting headings should be slower than the speed of transmitting of texts.

482. LOGS AND PILES

- a. Every signal transmitted or received by visual means shall be logged, together with the time of execution, in a suitable record book.
- b. A file of all messages transmitted or received by visual means shall be kept to facilitate future reference.

403. CALL SIGNS

- a. The following call signs are authorized for use in calling and answering: visual call signs, international call signs, tactical call signs, task organization call signs, collective call signs and indefinite call signs. Address groups may be used as call signs by Coast Guard and Navy commands (except in non-military communications).
- b. Call signs and address groups in message headings will ordinarily be arranged in alphabetical order in the form in which they are to be transmitted, whether plain, encrypted, or mixed. For this purpose, / (slant sign) and figures 1 through 8 will be considered the twenty-seventh through thirty-seventh letters of the alphabet. Care must be taken to avoid separating groups of related call signs or conjunctive address groups which are interdependent.
- c. The different methods of visual signaling require variations in procedure for calling and answering. The necessary instructions for each method are prescribed in Chapters 6 to 9 inclusive.

484. MESSAGE TRANSMISSION

Messages shall be transmitted exactly as written. Abbreviations shall not be substituted for plain language or plain language substituted for abbreviations.

SECTION II - USE OF PRECEDENCE PROSIGNS

405. RESPONSIBILITY

The assignment of precedence to a message is the responsibility of the originator and is determined by the subject matter of the text and the time factor involved.

486. SIGNIFICANCE

Precedence designations are employed to indicate the relative order in which a message of one precedence designation is handled with respect to messages of other precedence designations. Precedence designations indicate:

- a. To the Originator The required speed of delivery to the addressee.
- b. To Communication Personnel The relative order of handling and delivery.

c. To the Addressee - The relative order in which he should note the message.

487. PRECEDENCE DESIGNATIONS AND COMMUNICATION HANDLING

Messages will be handled in accordance with the precedence explained below.

- a. FLASH precedence will be indicated by the prosign Z. PLASH messages will be processed, transmitted and delivered in the order received and ahead of all other messages. Messages of lower precedence will be interrupted on all circuits involved until handling of the FLASH message is completed.
- b. IMMEDIATE precedence will be indicated by the prosign O. IMMEDIATE messages are processed, transmitted and delivered in the order received and ahead of all messages of lower precedence. Processing and transmission of lower precedence message already in progress will be interrupted ulesss interrupting and cancelling the lower precedence transmission will take longer than completing it.
- c. PRIORITY precedence will be indicated by the prosign P. PRIORITY messages are processed, transmitted and delivered in the order received and shead of all messages of lower precedence. ROUTINE messages being transmitted should not be interrupted unless they are extra long.
- d. ROUTINE precedence will be indicated by the prosign R. ROUTINE messages are processed, transmitted and delivered in the order received and after all messages of higher precedence.

488. INDICATING PRECEDENCE IN PRELIMINARY CALL

Precedence may be indicated in a preliminary call as follows:

Z indicates "I have Flash precedence traffic to transmit." O indicates "I have Immediate precedence traffic to transmit." P indicates "I have Priority precedence traffic to transmit." R indicates "I have Routing precedence traffic to transmit."

EXAMPLE:

A68 tells D45, "I have Priority precedence traffic to transmit."

D45-P (repeated until answered by D45)

409. SINGLE PRECEDENCE

The precedence shall be indicated by the appropriate precedence prosign and will appear as the first element of the preamble.

419. DUAL PRECEDENCE

- a. Multiple address messages having both action and information addressees may either be assigned a single precedence, in which case it indicates the precedence for all addressees, or they may be assigned two precedences, one for all action addressees and a lower one for all information addressees.
 - b. Where dual precedence is indicated, the higher precedence will appear first.

4-2

EXAMPLE:

Priority precedence to M72, Routine to D19:

M72 D19 DE 01 -P - R - 1615302 NOV -PM 01 -TO M72 -INFO D19 -GR14 BT etc.

SECTION III - GROUP COUNT

411. RULES FOR COUNTING GROUPS

- a. Count groups in text only.
- b. Punctuation and symbols are not counted unless spelled out or abbreviated.
- c. A sequence of characters not interrupted by a space is counted as one group.
- d. The proper names of countries, cities or streets consisting of two or more separate words should normally be written and counted as one group, i.e., SanSalvador, SanDiego, SaltLakeCity, but when written separately they will be transmitted and counted as separate groups, i.e., Fifth Avenue.
 - e. The following text is counted as 19 groups:

SHIPMENT BRAY HYPHEN CORBIE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MARKED BRAY-CORBIE. FUTURE SHIPMENTS FOR PAREN FRANCE UNPAREN SHOULD BE MARKED (FRANCE).

f. EXAMPLES:

LES:	
	Group Count
BRAY HYPHEN CORBIE	. 3
BRAY-CORBIE	. 1
NEWYORK	. 1
XFUY	. 1
CNYR NKLY JVRN	. 3
(FRANCE)	. 1
PAREN FRANCE UNPAREN	. 3
125/3	. 1
CG	. 1
125-3/3-55-x56	. 1
35 DASH 567P	. 3
MR C D ADAMS	. 4
BP6 3118452	. 2
/124.0-130.6	. 1
AND/OR	. 1
(288 72 53)	. 3

412. PLAIN LANGUAGE TEXTS

The group count element may be omitted in messages where the text consists of plain language.

413. CHECKING GROUP COUNT

a. GR preceded by INT and followed by numeral(s) means, "Is the number of groups as indicated?" When the number of groups received does not correspond with the group count transmitted, the receiving station will immediately question the transmitting station by using INT GR followed by numeral(s).

EXAMPLE: INT GR8 K

If after rechecking the message the transmitting station finds that the receiving station is correct, the transmitting station sends: C κ

b. For all plain language messages, and for encrypted messages where the group count does not exceed 50 groups, if the receiving station is considered to be incorrect, the transmitting station repeats the original group count and transmits the first character of each word or group in the text in succession.

EXAMPLE:

05 transmits a message to D83:

D83 DE #5 R - 2721232 NOV
GR1# BT
RECEIVED SHIPMENT TWO TRUCKS FROM PARIS PAREN FRANCE
UNPAREN TODAY
BT K

DB3 questions the group count:

05 DE D83 INT GR11 K

\$5 checks and finds the group count correct as transmitted, then transmits:

D83 DE 85 GR10 BT R S T T F P P F U T BT K

c. For encrypted messages with a group count exceeding 50 groups, if the receiving station is considered to be incorrect, the transmitting station repeats the original group count and transmits the identity of the first, eleventh and every subsequent tenth group, followed by the initial letter of that group. The identity of the group will be separated from the initial letter of the group by a separative sign.

EXAMPLE:

- 05 transmits a message to D83 countaining 76 groups.
- p83 questions the group count:

INT GR75 K

Ø5 checks and finds the group count correct as transmitted, then transmits:

GR76 BT 1 - D 11 - L 21 - H 31 - P 41 - Q 51 - M 61 - W 71 - F

D83 then requests a repetition of the ten groups in which he has a miscount:

IMI 31 TO 48 K

d. Subject to the above checking of the group count the group count as decided by the transmitting station is final.

SECTION IV - MESSAGE ADDRESS

414. USE OF PROSIGNS PM, TO AND INFO

- a. The prosigns FM, TO, and INFO are used to indicate the beginning of the originator format line, the action addressee format line and information addressee format line respectively. In plaindress messages these prosigns shall be followed by call signs, address groups or plain language.
- b. When there are only action addressees, INFO is omitted; when there are only information addressees, TO is omitted. (XMT may be used to exempt stations from a collective action or information address.) (See paragraph 342.)

EXAMPLE A:

All addressees (C42 and R33) are action addressees in a message originated by C32.

- R - 161215Z NOV FM C32 -TO C42 R33 GR18 BT etc.

EXAMPLE B:

All addressees (D26 and F79) are information addressees in a message originated by C32.

- R - 3107452 NOV FM C32 -INFO D26 F79 GR19 BT etc.

EXAMPLE C:

D26 is an action addressee and F79 is an information addressee in a message originated by C32.

- R - 1722152 NOV FM C32 -TO D26 -INFO F79 GR12 BT etc.

415. CALL SERVING AS ADDRESS

In plaindress or abbreviated plaindress messages when the originator is in direct communication with the addressees the call will serve as the address. This is possible only when the call designations of the stations used in calling and answering are the same as those assigned the originator and addressees.

EXAMPLE A:

When all addressees are action:

D26 F79 DE C32 -- R - 1615122 NOV GR18 BT etc.

EXAMPLE B:

When there are both action and information addressees: In addition to being in the call line, the information addressee must be indicated by the operating singal 2FH2 followed by the designation of the information addressee.

D26 F79 DE C32 *ZFH2 F79 -R - 1615122 NOV GR18 BT etc.

EXAMPLE C:

When all addressees are information: This is indicated by the inclusion of the operating signal ZFH2 with no address designations following.

D26 F79 DE C32 *ZFH2 -R - 161512Z NOV GR18 BT etc.

*ZPH2 means: This message is being passed to you for information.

416. READDRESSING MESSAGES

a. When an addressee desires to readdress a message to ships or stations not included in the original address, he may do so by employing the operating signal ZFH followed by 1 or 2 (indicating for action or information) in the transmission instructions, the call serving as the address.

> EXAMPLE: D586 F64 DE D83 2FH1 D586 ZFH2 F64 -P - 218917Z DEC -FM C46 -TO D83 BT etc.

b. When the authority desiring to readdress the message is not in visual communication with the desired addressees, the procedure outlined in ACP 124 will be employed in the heading.

SECTION V - IDENTIFICATIONS, CORRECTIONS, REPETITIONS, VERIFICATIONS, CANCELLATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

417. IDENTIFICATION OF MESSAGES

- a. Messages should normally be identified by the use of the date-time group/time group, the designation of the originating station and/or the group count. When identifying messages, the data used shall be as brief as possible, consistent with positive identification. Care should be exercised when identifying encrypted messages that no plain language reference is made to address or text portions which were encrypted.
- b. Parts of messages are identified as shown in the examples below. If a word or group occurring more than once in a message is used to identify part of that message, it is to be assumed that the first occurrence of that word or group is implied. If otherwise intended, amplifying data such as adjacent words or groups must be included.

EXAMPLES: AB BT denotes all before the text.

AA LUXO \overline{BT} denotes the message ending, where LUXO is the last group in the text.

AA BT denotes the complete text and message ending.

c. In requesting repetitions of the <u>heading</u> of a message, a repetition may be requested of all that portion preceding a prosign, or that portion between any two prosigns. Thus requests for repetitions and replies thereto must include the nearest prosigns following, or preceding and following, the portion requested.

418. CORRECTIONS AND REPETITIONS

- a. Errors or omissions noted by the transmitting operator shall be corrected as follows:
- (1) During transmission the operator shall transmit the error prosign, repeat the last word, group, prosign or operating signal correctly transmitted before the error, followed by the corrected word, group or prosign, and continue with the transmission.
- (2) When transmission is completed but before a receipt is obtained the operator shall use the appropriate prosigns to correct any portion of the message.
- (3) After transmission and after a receipt is obtained a service or abbreviated service message shall be used to send any corrections.
- b. When errors or omissions are noted by the receiving operator, corrections or repetitions shall be obtained as follows:
 - (1) Before a receipt has been given by appropriate prosigns.
- (2) After a receipt has been given by a service or abbreviated service message.

NOTE: The prosign THI cannot be used to request repetitions after a receipt has been given.

- c. A service or abbreviated service message employed to obtain repetitions or send corrections is normally assigned a precedence equal to that of the message to which it refers.
- d. Corrections sent without request are preceded by the prosign C with appropriate identifying data where necessary, and transmitted in the same manner as those sent in answer to a request for repetition, correction or verification.
- e. When repetitions of portions of a message containing the call are made, the original call must be repeated in such repetitions except when only one station was called originally.

419. EXAMPLES OF REPETITIONS

```
a. Original message (transmitted by non-directional means):
```

2 DE D3 -R - 2715452 OCT -FM D3 -TO R8 -INFO D S SQUAD 3 KJAPY - CBOQU - ALAJY - QLUPY - RFOQO - IMUCO - TKAWQ - PGUXO - SXAVA - DRATU - HSOBO BT K

EXAMPLE A:

Repetition of the last transmission:

Request: D3 DE R8 IMI K R8 DE D3 -2 DE D3 -R - 271545Z OCT -PM D3 TO R8 INFO D SQUAD 3 GR11 BT KJAPY - CBOQU - ALAJY - QLUPY -RFOQO - IMUCO - TKAWQ - PGUXO -SXAVA - DRATU - HSOBO BT K

EXAMPLE B:

Repetition of all before the text:

Request: Reply: D3 DE R8 IMI AB BT K R8 DE D3 AB BT -2 DE D3 -R - 2715452 OCT -FM D3 -TO R8 -INFO D SQUAD 3 GR11 BT K

EXAMPLE C:

Repetition of all between FM and INFO:

Reply: D3 DE R8 R8 DE D3 IMI PM TO INPO K FM TO INFO -FM D3 -TO R8 -INFO K

EXAMPLE D:

Repetition of all before INFO:

Request:

Request: Reply: D3 DE R8 IMI AB INFO K R8 DE D3 AB INFO 2 DE D3 R - 271545% OCT -FM D3 -TO R8 -INFO K

EXAMPLE E:

Repetition of all before the fourth group:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8 IMI AB 4 K

RS DE D3 AB 4 -2 DE D3 -

R - 271545Z OCT -FM D3 -

TO RB -

INFO D SQUAD 3 GR11 BT

KJAPY - CBOQU - ALAJY K

EXAMPLE F:

Repetition of the date-time group, originator and action addressee:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8

R8 DE D3

IMI R TO INFO K

R TO INFO -R - 271545% OCT -

FM D3 -TO R8 -

INFO K

EXAMPLE G:

Repetition of all after the eighth group:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8 IMI AA 8 K

R8 DE D3

AA 8 - SXAVA -DRATU - HSOBO BT K

EXAMPLE H:

Repetition of the ninth group:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8

R8 DE D3

IMI 9 K

9 - SXAVA K

SXAMPLE I:

Repetition of the third to eighth groups:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8

R8 DE D3

IMI 3 TO 8 K

3 TO 8 -

ALAJY - QLUPY - RPOQO -IMUCO - TKAWQ - PGUXO K

EXAMPLE J:

Repetition of the third and sixth to eighth groups:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8

R8 DE D3

IMI 3 - 6 TO 8 K

3 - ALAJY - 6 TO 8 -IMUCO - TKAWQ - PGUXO K

In plain language messages, portions of the text are identified as words rather numbered groups. The prosigns WA and WB are used as appropriate (see paragraphs than as 340 and 341).

EXAMPLE AT

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8

R8 DE D3

IMI WA CARRY K

WA CARRY - OUT K

EXAMPLE B:

Request:

Reply:

D3 DE R8

R8 DE D3

IMI CARRY TO SIXTEEN K

CARRY TO SIXTEEN -CARRY OUT PLAN SIXTEEN K

429. VERIFICATIONS

a. Under certain conditions, addressees of a message may wish to verify with the originator either the whole of the message or a protion thereof. This may be done by means of abbreviated service, service or formal message as appropriate. However, it is emphasized that only an addressee may request a verification, and the reply thereto must be authorized by the originator of the message in question. Operators are not permitted to originate a request for a verification or reply thereto.

- b. In most cases, a message will be receipted for before the need for a verification becomes evident. In those cases where it is apparent, prior to receipting for a message, that a verification will be required (e.g., when the text is such that its meaning is readily determined by an addressee who is immediately available to the operator), verification may be requested at once instead of first receipting for the transmission.
- c. The prosign J after a call and followed by identification data, when necessary, means "Verify with the <u>originator</u> and repeat message or portion indicated."
 - d. The prosign J may be used to request verification of:
 - (1) The entire message.
 - (2) The heading, or any portion of the heading.
 - (3) The entire text of any message.
 - (4) A portion of the text of a plain language message.
 - (5) A portion of the text of a message from a signal book
- (6) Portions of the text of encrypted messages, when the crypto system employed When the prosign J is used for this purpose, numerals are to be used to indicate the groups requiring verification.

421. EXAMPLES OF VERIFICATIONS

Original message:

D DIV 5 DE ØD -R - 1815452 DEC -FM ØD -TO D56 D78 -INFO D31

PROCEED ON DUTY ASSIGNED. MAKE MOVREPS BT K

EXAMPLE A:

D31 desires verification and repetition of the entire message and originates a message accordingly.

```
ØD DE D31
J 181545Z DEC K
```

The operator, having receipted for the abbreviated service message, verifies with the originator and sends the reply:

```
D31 DE 8D
C 181545Z OCT -
D DIV 5 DE 8D
R - 181545Z OCT -
FM 8D
TO D56 D78 -
INFO D31
BT
PROCEED ON DUTY ASSIGNED, MAKE MOVREPS BT K
```

EXAMPLE B:

D31 desires verification and repetition of the heading and originates a message accordingly.

```
ØD DE D31
J 1815452 OCT AB BT K
```

The operator, having receipted for the abbreviated service message, verifies with the originator and sends the reply.

```
D31 DE 8D
C 181545Z OCT AB BT -
D DIV 5 DE 8D -
R - 181545Z OCT -
FM 8D -
TO D56 D78 -
INFO D31
BT K
```

EXAMPLE C1

D31 desires verification and repetition of the address and originates a message accordingly.

```
ØD DE D31
J 1815452 OCT FM TO BT K
```

The operator, having receipted for the abbreviated service message, verifies with the originator and sends the reply:

```
D31 DE ØD
C 181545Z OCT FM TO BT -
FM ØD
TO D56 D78 -
INFO D31
BT K
```

EXAMPLE D:

D31 desires verification and repetition of all after "assigned" and originates a message accordingly.

```
ØD DE D31
J 181545Z OCT AA ASSIGNED K
```

The operator, having receipted for the abbreviated service message, verifies with the originator. As a result, the originator discovers that he has made an error in the original message and orders it to be corrected to read "Make own movreps." The operator transmits the correction to all original addressees as follows:

D DIV 5 DE GD C 181545Z OCT AA ASSIGNED - MAKE OWN MOVREPS BT K

422. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

An acknowledgement is a communication indicating that the message to which it refers has been received and the purport is understood by the addressee. Instructions to acknowledge mean "An acknowledgement of this message (or message indicated), when understood, is required," and may be included in the original transmission or by separate message.

423. EXAMPLES OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EXAMPLE A:

C58 sends R34 a message, 8512182, without requiring an acknowledgement. After receipt has been obtained, C58 desires an acknowledgement and transmits:

R34 DE C58 INT ZEV* Ø51218Z OCT K

R34 receipts in the normal manner, and when the message is understood by the addressee, transmits the acknowledgement:

C58 DE R34 ZEV** Ø51218Z OCT K

and obtains a receipt.

EXAMPLE B:

The operating signal INT SEV* may be placed in the heading as the last element of the preamble:

D51 DE C58 INT ZEV* B7 GOLP BRAVO BT K

D51 receipts in the normal manner, and when the message is understood by the addressee, transmits the acknowledgement:

C58 DE D51 ZEV** K

and obtains a receipt.

*INT ZZV means "Request you acknowledge message"
**ZZV means "Message (or message....) is acknowledged."

424. DUPLICATE OR SUSPECTED DUPLICATE MESSAGES

When it is necessary to send an exact duplicate of a message previously transmitted or believed to have been transmitted, the appropriate operating signal shall be placed in the message instructions if the duplicate message is initiated by the originating station, or in the transmission instructions if the duplicate transmission is initiated by a relaying station.

425. CANCELLATIONS

Cancellation of a message which has been acknowledged or receipted for may be accomplished only by a new message properly authorized.

SECTION VI - RULES FOR REFILING MESSAGES

426. MESSAGES IN BASIC FORMAT

a. Messages which have been received in the basic message format employing a procedure other than visual procedure (e.g., tape relay, radiotelegraph, etc.) will require reprocessing before they are forwarded by visual means. Such reprocessing is accomplished as outlined below.

- (1) Delete the procedure component in the heading and insert any required transmission instructions, using procedure outlined in this publication.
- (2) Routing indicators and operating signals indicating delivery by other means when appearing in format lines 7 or 8 may be deleted.
- (3) Confirmatory information, when appearing in the ending component of the message, will be compared with the text and then deleted prior to retransmission. When a difference is noted between the confirmation line and the comparable portion in the text, the message will be relayed to the addressee with the appropriate operating signal meaning substantially "Confirmation differs from text." The operating signal thus employed will appear as the first portion of the final instructions and will be followed by the portion of the confirmation line which is at variance with the text. This operating signal will remain a portion of the final instructions to final destination.
- (4) Corrections, when appearing, will be made as appropriate within the text and then deleted.
 - (5) Time of filing, when appearing, will be deleted.
- (6) The appropriate visual procedure lines, as prescribed in paragraph 117 will be inserted in the heading and ending components of the message prior to re-transmission.
- (7) Radiotelephone call signs should not normally be used in the address portion of messages which are to be passed by visual means. If a message is received from a radiotelephone circuit employing radiotelephone call signs, these call signs will be converted (if the appropriate call sign books are available) to the appropriate call signs and address groups prior to onward transmission by visual means.
- b. In order to prevent confusion when transmitting refiled messages containing incomplete groups, the slant/oblique stroke will be used to indicate the missing characters. When the location of the missing characters cannot be readily determined, the slant/oblique stroke will be transmitted at the beginning of the questionable group. Particular care must be exercised to ensure that confusion does not result from use of the slant/oblique stroke in plain language messages.

4-12 ORIGINAL

CHAPTER 5

VISUAL RELAY RESPONSIBILITY

501. GENERAL

In visual communication systems relaying is accomplished automatically when the call up is made by using collective call signs. A message should be relayed concurrent with its reception, when possible, in order to minimize the time delay between the end of the originator's transmission and its delivery to the final addresses.

502. CHAIN OF VISUAL RESPONSIBILITY

a. The general rule for determining the responsibility for any situation is that each addressee is responsible for the delivery of the messages to addressees beyond himself in the general direction away from the originator. No rule set forth herein, or prescribed by responsible commanders, shall be interpreted as restricting the initiative of any ship in relaying a message to an addressee who does not respond when called. It is the duty of any ship to expedite the transmission of a message by relay when it is evident that she is in a better position to effect the necessary relay than the ship specifically responsible.

b. Alterations - When a maneuver alters the position of units and ships relative to the Officer in Tactical Command (OTC), the responsibility for relaying signals does not alter until the maneuver is completed by all ships.

503. CHAIN OF VISUAL RESPONSIBILITY - DIRECTIONAL METHOD

- a. Single Line Formations Any given ship is responsible for the ships beyond and in the direction away from the originating ship.
 - b. Multiple Line Formations:
 - (1) The senior officer of any multiple line formation is responsible for:
 - (a) Ships in his own line.
 - (b) Line commanders of lines immediately adjacent to his own line.
 - (2) Line commanders are responsible for:
 - (a) Ships in their own lines.
- (b) Line commanders immediately adjacent but in a direction beyond and away from the originating ship.
- (3) Individual ships are responsible for ships in their own line beyond and away from their own line commander.
- c. Operational Formations and Dispositions In any operational formation or disposition the chain of visual responsibility is governed by the rules set forth above unless modified by responsible commanders. It may be necessary for commanders to promulgate detailed relaying instructions or diagrams showing sectors of visual responsibility to ensure that visual signals are cleared as quickly as possible. In assigning responsibility consideration should be given to the relative capabilities of the various ships, i.e., type of visual equipment installed, personnel limitations, type formations, etc.

504. REPEATING SHIPS

- a. A repeating ship is any ship through which a message is relayed. The term "repeating ship" includes:
 - A ship specifically designated as a repeating ship.
 - (2) A ship which automatically relays.
 - (3) A ship which elects to relay to facilitate signaling.
 - (4) A ship through which a message is routed.
- b. The function of a ship specifically designated as a repeating ship is to act as a primary relay station to facilitate communications.

CHAPTER 6

PLASHING LIGHT

601. PROCEDURES

- a. Directional procedure Always employed when using a directional light. It is also employed when using a non-directional light when the call is that of a single station.
- b. Non-directional procedure One station may transmit to a number of other stations simultaneously by means of a light showing over a wide area.

c. Use of Signal Lights

(1) General.

- (a) In wartime the greatest care is to be taken when signaling at night. Flashing light is to be used only when necessary and a minimum of light employed, except when making recognition signals when a light of sufficient brilliancy is to be used to ensure its being immediately seen. It must, however, always be rememered that in heavy weather destroyers and small ships have difficulty in reading dim lights, due to movement and sea.
- (b) The background must always be considered and care should be taken not to use a signaling light close to or in line with navigation lights.
- (c) No upper deck lighting should be visible on or in the vicinity of the signal deck.
 - (2) At dusk and dawn.
- (a) In wartime the use of signal lights at dusk and dawn must be avoided whenever possible. If, however, their use is unavoidable, signalers must pay constant attention to the brilliancy of their lamps.
 - (b) Signal lights are to be carefully tested for leakage of light.
 - (3) At night.
- (a) A constant watch is to be kept on the ship of the OTC by all other ships.
- (b) It may often be found, after communication has been established, that the brilliancy of the light can be still further reduced.
- (c) It is absolutly essential when using any type of directional light, to keep it trained accurately throughout transmission of the message.
 - (4) At all times.
- (a) Ships are to inform other ships signaling to them when their lights are observed to be brighter than necessary, by the use of the prosign D.
- (b) Sighting arrangements of lights are to be frequently tested for alignment.
- (c) To prevent masthead and yardarm signaling lights from being accidently lighted, the switch in the power supply line should be kept open until use of the light is actually required.

602. DIRECTIONAL PROCEDURE

- a. The transmitting station waits for the receiving station to make a flash for each prosign, word, code group or operating signal. Should the receiving station fail to read a prosign, word, code group or operating signal, it will be repeated by the transmitting station.
- b. An exception to this rule is that a flash is not necessary to the prosign K when there is an immediate response to K. A flash should be made to K in the message ending when there will be a delay while checking the message to ensure its completeness.

ORIGINAL

682. (Continued)

c. Examples of Directional Procedure

(1) A non-executive message to one ship, direct.

K Flash
Plach
crasn
Flash
R

(2) A non-executive message to one ship, passed by a specific relay.

D63 makes	D51 makes	D48 makes
D51 (until answered)	к	
T	Flash	
R	Flash	
102100Z	Flash	
PM	Flash	
D63	Flash	
TO	Flash	
D48	Flash	
BT	Flash	
ALPHA	Flash	
DELTA	Flash	
SIX	Flash	
BT	Flash	
K	R	
Flash	D48 (until answered)	к
	R	Plash
	102100z	Flash
	FM	Flash
	D63	Flash
	TO	Flash

6-2

602.c.(2) (Continued) D63 makes

D51 makes	D48 makes
D48	Flash
BT	Flash
ALPHA	Flash
DELTA	Plash
SIX	Plash
BT	Flash
к	*R
Flash	

* If a message requires checking, a flash may be given for the K and an R transmitted when ready to receipt.

603. NON-DIRECTIONAL PROCEDURE

- a. This procedure permits one station to transmit to a number of other stations simultaneously by means of a light showing over a wide area. It is seldom used at night in wartime owing to danger of enemy interception. It may be used by day or night in circumstances where the risk is negligible. The procedure prescribed for non-directional flashing light differs from that laid down for directional flashing light as follows:
- (1) The call may consist of a collective call sign, or a number of call signs, repeated until answered by all receiving stations.
- (2) Each receiving station answers by transmitting a continuous series of Ks until the calling station, seeing that all receiving stations are answering, stops calling, waits a short time, then starts transmitting the message. Where practicable receiving stations shall use a directional light of minimum brilliance.
- (3) Where repeating ships are employed, they will repeat the originator's transmissions word by word as received.
- (4) During transmission of the message, all receiving stations keep their lights out. Should a receiving station miss a portion of the message, that station is to request a repetition in the normal manner upon completion of the transmission. A station which is repeating the message as received, and who misses a portion may substitute the operating signal ZEP* for the missing portion and proceed with the transmission. When the missing portion is obtained, it is transmitted in the form of a correction.
 - (5) Receiving stations, after checking, receipt for the message by making RRRR.
- (6) When the prosign F is used in non-directional procedure no ship is to makes any response to this call or to receipt for the message. Ships that miss the transmission or any portions thereof may request repetitions by directional flashing light from adjacent ships. In requesting such repetitions, ships should bear in mind the danger of disclosing the tactical composition of the formation.
 - (7) The separative sign is used between coded groups.

*ZEP means "This message (or message) was incompletely received. Each word or group missed, which is indicated by position of ZEP in the message, will be forwarded as soon as obtained."

b. Example of Non-Directional Procedure

The example below illustrates non-directional procedure using repeating ships. 81 (OTC) transmits a priority message to all ships present.

6#3.b. (Continued)

Øl makes	Repeating Ships makes	Receiving Ships makes
<pre>2 - p (until answered)</pre>	2 - p (until answered)	Ks (or hoist DESIG
- p - 211357z OCT BT MY 211247z OCT Operation postponed one hour BT	- p - 211357Z OCT BT MY 211247Z OCT Operation postponed one hour BT	if using DSL - see sub-para c)

c. Special Daylight Signalling Equipment

- (1) Where a special non-directional daylight signalling lantern (DSL) is fitted, the procedure to be employed by the transmitting station is the same as that prescribed for non-directional procedure.
- (2) Receiving stations answer by hoisting DESIG. Repetitions are obtained in the same manner as for non-directional procedure. The entire message is finally receipted for by hauling down DESIG.

684. CALLING

a. In visual communication the identity of the calling station is usually apparent, and it is necessary only to gain the attention of the station being called. This is normally done by making, until answered, the call sign of the station being called. When it is desirable to identify the calling station, the full call is used. This consists of the call sign of the station called and when answered, the prosign DB, and the call sign of the calling station. On occasions, e.g., when using no response procedure, it may be necessary to transmit the full call before or without being answered. (See paragraph 607.d. for the latter.)

EXAMPLES:

```
Abbreviated call . . . C33 (until answered)
Full call . . . . . . C33 (until answered) DE D46
or
C33 DE D46
```

- b. Collective or multiple call may be employed as required.
- A collective call consists of a single call sign representing more than one station, e.g., D SQUAD 4.
- (2) A multiple call may consist of two or more individual or collective calls, e.g., D SQUAD 3 D56.
- (3) Both collective and multiple calls may be followed by the prosign DE and the call sign of the calling station.
 - c. Call signs and address groups which may be used in the heading or ending are:
 - (1) Visual call signs from Chapter 2.
 - (2) Call signs from ACP 113.
 - (3) Address groups from ACP 100.
- d. The call may serve as the address. When abbreviated calls are used, it is assumed that the message is addressed from and to the senior officer embarked. When this is not the case, a full call or the address component is to be used.
- e. In examples throughout this book the use or absence of calls, full or abbreviated, may be altered in practice, depending on the circumstances.

605. ANSWERING AND RECEIPTING

- a. The answer normally consists of the prosign K. (In non-directional procedure, except as prescribed in c. below the stations called answer by transmitting a continuous series of Ks until the calling station, seeing that all stations are answering, stops calling, waits a short pause, and continues with the transmission.) The calling station may flash for the series of Ks from each unit until all units have responded.
- b. If necessary to distinguish which of several stations is being answered, the prosign K should be preceded by the call sign of the station answered.
- c. Where more than one station is being called in the same direction or during low visibility, it may be necessary for the answering station to indicate its own identity when answering. This is done by transmitting the prosign DE followed by own call sign and prosign K. This method is also used in answer to the prosign AA. (See paragraph 607.a for the latter.)
- d. When required, a full answer consisting of the call sign of the calling station, and the prosign DE followed by the call sign of the station answering may be employed.
- e. A call received from a station using special non-directional Daylight Signaling Equipment will be answered by hoisting DESIG. DESIG is used in the same manner as ANS in paragraph 710.c.(2). (See paragraph 603.c.(2).)
- f. In flashing light procedure when giving an immediate receipt to a message in response to the prosign K, the prosign R is used singly without an ending sign K or XR.

686. RELAYING INSTRUCTIONS

- a. When relaying responsibilities are automatic, relaying instructions need not be inserted in the transmission instructions.
- b. The prosign T is to be used when signals/messages are passed through a relay when relaying responsibilities are not automatic and the originator requires no report of delivery. The address component is mandatory.
- c. The prosign L is to be used when the originator requires relaying ships to report through the chain of visual responsibility when the message has been delivered.
- d. The prosign L is not to be used in the transmission instructions of executive method messages. The prosign L must however, be passed in to the originator by relaying ships when the text of the executive method message has reached the last ship in the chain of visual responsibility. It is not to be passed in for the executive signal nor for messages where no response procedure is used.
- e. The prosign L must be passed to the originator by a ship which relays an emergency alarm signal to the Officer in Tactical Command (OTC).

607. SPECIAL PROCEDURES

- a. Calling an unkown station.
- The identity of a station may be established by using the prosign AA, unknown station call.

EXAMPLE:

The identity of each station is unknown to the other.

PACM makes	GCCM makes
AA (until answered)	
Flash	DE
	GCCM
Flash	K
DE	
PACH	Flash
¥	Flash
AR (or proceeds with message)	Flash

- b. Exchanging identities with Senior Officer Present Afloat (SOPA).
- (1) When prescribed, ships on entering port will exchange identities with the SOPA. This will be done in the special procedure described below. If the ship entering has a message for SOPA it will transmit this message after identities have been exchanged. Normal procedure will then be used.

EXAMPLE:

PACM makes	GKYD (SOPA) makes	
DE PACM (at intervals)		
к	PACH	
COMPONENTAL	DE	
Flash	GKYD	
Flash		
Flash	AR (or proceeds with message)	

If PACM has a message for SOPA, SOPA will be called in the normal way.

- (2) When it is desired to indicate both flag or unit commander's call sign and the ship's call sign, slant (\overline{XE}) should be inserted between them and transmitted in the same manner as the single call sign, and sent as one group.
- (3) Exchanges of identities with the senior officer present shall be relayed by intervening stations when necessary. Operating signals are provided to facilitate this relay with meanings as follows:

ZOL - "I will relay your call sign to SOPA, whose call sign is"

ZGG3 - "Call sign of incoming vessel is"

EXAMPLE:

NJGQ makes	PACM makes	GKYD (SOPA) makes
DE NJGQ (at intervals)	NJGQ	
Flash	DE PACM	
Flash Flash	ZOL	
Flash	GKYD AR	
Plash	GKYD (until answered	K
	ZGG3 NJGQ	Flash
	ĀR	Flash
	4440	Flash

c. Double-flash procedure.

(1) Double-flash procedure is for use when a recorder is not available. A station called desiring to use double-flash procedure will transmit the appropriate operating signal meaning "Use double-flash procedure." An operator receiving a message using double-flash procedure will flash to indicate the receipt of a word or group and will then flash again to indicate that the group is recorded and that he is ready to receive the next word or group.

607.c.(1) (Continued)

EXAMPLE:

D883 makes	D836 makes	
D6 (until answered)		
Flash	ZJJ	
2077	K:	
BT		
	Flash (for prosign)	
	Flash (when recorded	1
Send		
	Flash (for word)	
	Flash (when recorded	1
(Proceeds with message)		

ZJJ means "Use double-flash procedure."

d. No response procedure.

- (1) The prosign F transmitted four times (repeated as necessary) preceding the call indicates that stations called are not to answer the call or receipt for the message. The message is to be transmitted twice, but the prosign F is not to be transmitted four times preceding the call of the second transmission.
- (2) When this procedure is used with a collective call sign, individual stations relay by the same procedure in accordance with their visual responsibilities, except that if made by non-directional light the stations receiving the message are not to repeat it.
- (3) The prosign F, when used, is to be included in the transmission instructions of plaindress or codress messages.

EXAMPLE A:

D36 transmits a message to D72.

FFFF FFFF D72 DE D36* - F - R - 1287452 GR8 BT TEXT BT IMI D72 DE D36* - F - R - 1287452 GR8 BT TEXT BT AR

*The call may be omitted when no confusion could result.

EXAMPLE B:

D87 transmits a message by directional light to three ships D63, D67 and D74 using the collective call sign D DIV 1.

D87 makes	D63 makes	D67 makes	D74 makes
FFFF D DIV 1 - F - SIERRA YANKEE BT Ø3152 IMI D DIV 1 - F - SIERRA YANKEE	FFFF D DIV 1 - F - etc.	PPFF D DIV 1 - F - etc.	No response
8315z AR			

NOTE: No ship will make any response.

e. Alarm procedure for enemy reporting.

(1) Emergency alarm signals may be made by normal abbreviated procedure or by this special alarm procedure. In alarm procedure there is no call, the text being flashed continuously until answered by R. The precedence prosign, the position of the reporting station and the date-time group are omitted. When used, such a report should be followed by an amplifying report containing the position and any other data available.

EXAMPLE A:

Reporting ship R62 is in direct visual communications with the OTC, R64.

R62 makes	R64 makes
EMERG GOLF (until answered)	
DE	
R62	Flash
ĀR	Flash
A.B.	Flash

EXAMPLE B:

Reporting ship D56 relaying through C64 to the OTC, R23. When an alarm report is passed through a relay, the call sign of the originator and the relaying ship are to be indicated.

D56 makes	C64 makes	R23 makes
EMERG GOLF (until answered	R	
DE D56	Flash	
ĀR	Flash	
	Flash	
	EMERG GOFL (until answered) DE	R
	D56	Flash
	C64	Flash
	ĀR	Flash Flash
Flash	r	0773000

f. Special visual prosign OL.

- (1) The special visual prosign OL is used to tell the receiving station to show a steady dim light. If a station is obviously having difficulty in keeping its light properly trained, the receiving station may be directed to show a steady dim light as a training mark. The flashes to indicate reception of the message must be made slightly brighter, or if necessary, a second light may be used.
 - g. Method of synchronizing time.
- (1) The procedure in this sub-paragraph is to be used for requesting and transmitting timing signals by flashing light.
- (2) The request for a timing signal is to be made by abbreviated service message employing the operating signal meaning "Request a timing signal now (or at)."
- (3) The intention to make a timing signal may be conveyed in advance by abbreviated service message employing the operating signal meaning "Stand by" followed by that meaning "Timing signal will be transmitted now (or at)."

- (4) The timing signal is to be transmitted as an abbreviated service message employing the operating signal meaning "Timing signal will be transmitted now (or at)." The operating signal is to be followed by the four figure group plus the zone suffix, indicating the time and a five second flash repeated by station called. The five second flash is to be completed exactly at the time indicated for the check.
- (5) Stations concerned which have received the check correctly are (if instructed to do so) to give a receipt in the normal manner. Any stations which fail to receive the timing signal correctly must request a further check by operating signal.

EXAMPLE:

D46 conveys intention to D06 to make a timing signal.

D46 makes	DØ6 makes
D06 (until answered)	25
203	K
ZUA	Flash
	Plash
Ø845	Flash
К	R
Flash	
D46 makes a timing signal	
DØ6 (until answered)	
ZUA	K
Ø845	Flash
	Flash
(5 second flash)	(5 second flash)
AR	The second secon
***	Flash
ZUJ means "Stand by." ZUA means "Timing signal w	ill be transmitted now (or at)."

(6) Flag TANGO, followed by two or four numerals, also signifies a timecheck.

EXAMPLE:

w
K
Flash
Flash
Flash
R
K
īx's
5 second flash
Flash

608. INDICATING PRECEDENCE IN CALLS

Precedence may be indicated in the call when using an abbreviated or full call, as shown in paragraph 488.

689. TRANSMISSION OF SIGNALS FROM A SIGNAL BOOK

- a. In the heading.
 - (1) Letters will be sent as Morse letter symbols.
 - (2) Numerals and numeral pennants will be sent as Morse numeral symbols.
- b. In the text.
 - (1) Letters and numerals comprising a signal group will be spelled out.
 - (2) Call signs will be transmitted in accordance with paragraph 206.b.
- c. At the discretion of the OTC, when conditions and operators' capabilities permit, all the alphabetical and numeral flags and numeral pennants comprising a signal may be transmitted as their Morse symbols to expedite signaling.

619. RECEIVING STATION REPEATING DIFFICULT WORDS

The receiving station may be instructed to repeat difficult or important words or groups in the text by the use of the prosign G as shown below. The more general use of the prosign G is given in paragraph 317.

EXAMPLE:

Transmitting station makes	Receiving station makes
FOR	
PLAN	Flash
	Flash
2P3/C5	Plash
G	
	Flash 2P3/C5
C (or repeats group if it was repeated back incorrectly)	Flash
ACCURATION AND ACCURATE	

(continues with text)

611. EXECUTIVE METHOD

- a. The executive method is used when it is desired to execute a signal at a certain instant, for example to ensure that two or more units take action at the same moment. While the executive method is usually associated with signals from a signal book, it may be used, when appropriate, for plain language messages.
 - b. There are two types of executive methods:
- Delayed executive method, in which stations receipt for the message and the executive signal is made in a later transmission.
- (2) Immediate executive method, in which the executive signal is made in the ending of the original message. Thus, stations are unable to give receipts before the message is executed.
 - c. Only abbreviated plaindress messages may be employed with the executive method.
 - d. Executive method messages do not carry a time group.
- e. A message which requires a signal of execution carries the prosign IX immediately before the first BT.
 - f. When using the Executive Signal, IX (5 second flash), the IX is effectively a

"stand by" and should be repeated as often as necessary to ensure that all ships have received the stand by and are awaiting the order to execute. The moment of execution will be the completion of the 5 second flash. In both directional and non-directional procedure, except when using DSL, all ships repeat the TX being made to ensure the signal is ready for execution and repeat the executive signal (5 second flash) to ensure simultaneous execution.

- g. The Executive Signal, \overline{IX} (5 second flash), alone after a call means "Execute all unexecuted messages transmitted by this station (by the executive method) to the same call."
 - h. Identification is required if:
- A portion of a message or one of several unexecuted messages is to be executed at that time.
- (2) A considerable time has elapsed between the transmission of the message and time to execute.
 - B23 has sent to all ships by non-directional method:
 - 2 DE B23 IX BT FORM ONE TACK SPEED TWO PIVE BT K
 - (a) To execute SPEED TWO FIVE only, the transmission would be:
 - 2 DE B23 SPEED TWO FIVE IX (5 second flash) AR
 - (b) To execute the remaining portion the transmission would be:
 - 2 DE B23 SPEED TWO FIVE IX (5 second flash) AR
- (c) To have executed the entire transmission after a considerable time lapse the transmission would have been:
 - 2 DE B23 FORM ONE TACK SPEED TWO FIVE \overline{IX} (5 second flash) \overline{AR}
 - NOTE: The absence of BTs in (a) and (c) shows that the message to be executed is not a new message.
- Requests for repetitions, corrections or verifications of the texts of signals taken from a naval signal book must be for the entire text or for those portions separated by TACK. If there are more than two TACKs in any signal, further amplification by use of the nearest whole signal is required.

612. EXAMPLES OF DELAYED EXECUTIVE METHOD - DIRECTIONAL PROCEDURE

a. C69 transmits direct to D35.

C69 makes	D35 makes
D35 (until answered)	2
TX	К
BT	Flash
100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	Flash
TURN	Flash
STBD	Flash
FOUR	-0-0-70 M CAN
BT	Flash
к	Flash
	R
Flash	
(to execute)	

 C69 makes
 D35 makes

 D35 (until answered)
 K

 TXs
 TXs

 5 second flash
 5 second flash

 AR
 Flash

b. DIV D 5 transmits an executive method message to D DIV 5 by directinal light.

DIV D 5 makes	D32 makes	D72 makes
1	K	
TX	1	к
	Flash IX	
BT	Flash BT	Flash
CORPEN	BT	Flash
	Flash CORPEN	
STBD	0000 200	Flash
3100	Flash STBD	180 0
NINE		Flash
	Flash . NINE	
BT	Flash BT	Plash
K	R	Flash
Flash	K	R
	Flash L	
Flash		
* (to execute)		
TXs	ĪXs	IXs
5 second flash	5 second flash	5 second flash
AR	#1 amb	
	<u>Fl</u> ash AR	Flash

^{*}NOTE: The executive signal may be preceded by a call in the event of a delay in receipt of the original transmission.

613. EXAMPLE OF DELAYED EXECUTIVE METHOD - NON-DIRECTIONAL PROCEDURE

R38 makes	Repeating ships makes	Receiving ships makes
2 (until all answer)	2 (until all answer)	Ks (or hoist DESIG
TX		if by DSL)
BT	IX	
SPEED	BT	
TWO	SPEED	
17.59763	TWO	
FIVE	FIVE	
BT	BT	
К	ĸ	
Flash	L	RRRR (or haul down DESIG if by DSL)
(to execute)		
*2 (until all answer)	2 (until all answer)	Ks (or rehoist DESIG if by DSL)
ĪXs	ĪXs	IXs (unless trans- mission is by
5 second flash	5 second flash	DSL) 5 second flash (or haul down DESIG
ĀR	ĀR	if by DSL)

^{*}Second call-up may be omitted if no confusion could result.

614. IMMEDIATE EXECUTIVE METHOD

- a. The rules for immediate executive method are:
- (1) The text is to be sent twice, separated by \overline{IMI} . The executive Signal, \overline{IX} (5 second flash), is made at the end of this transmission.
- (2) As receipts cannot be obtained before execution of the message, the use of immediate executive method must be authorized by the officer originating the message.
- (3) Directional procedure may be used with a single ship. Non-directional procedure must be used if signaling two or more ships at night. Immediate executive method is not normally used during daylight, when signaling two or more ships, unless the originating ship is fitted with DSL.
- (4) It is NOT to be used with directional flashing light when employing no response procedure.

615. EXAMPLE OF IMMEDIATE EXECUTIVE METHOD

B23 transmits TURN STBD NINE by immediate executive methods using non-directional procedure.

B23 makes	Repeating ships makes	Receiving ships makes
2 (until all answer)	2 (until all answer)	Ks (or hoist DESIG if by DSL)
IX	TX	
BT	BT	
TURN	TURN	
STBO	70000	
NINE	STBD	
IMI	NINE IMI	
TURN	TURN	
STBD	STBD	
NINE	NINE	9
BT	BT	
ĪXs	ĪXs	IXs (unless trans-
5 second flash	5 second flash	mission is by DSL) 5 second flash (or haul down DESIG if by DSL)
K	к	- SALIDERT N
	5	RRRR (unless trans- mission is by DSL)

616. EXAMPLE OF VERIFICATION AND CORRECTION - EXECUTIVE METHOD MESSAGES

a. R38 has made by delayed executive method to all ships TURN STDB TWO TACK SPEED EIGHT.

R21 requests verification of TURN STDB TWO

R21 makes	R38 makes
R38 (until answered)	ĸ
J	Flash
TURN	Plash
STBD	Flash
TWO	Flash
К	R
Flash	
If R38 finds that the m	message is correct as originally transmitted:
R38 makes	R21 makes
R21 (until answered)	к
c	
350	Flash

R38 makes	R21 makes
TURN	2558 (2558)
STBD	Flash
	Flash
TWO	Flash
K	R
Flach	ж.

b. If the message or portion of the message is found to be incorrect, the whole message or portion must be cancelled to all addressees and a new message transmitted. (The new message may be made and executed before the incorrect message is cancelled in those cases when speed is vitally important.)

R38 makes	Receiving ships makes
2 (until all answer)	
	Ks
BT	07.91
NEGAT	
TURN	
STBD	
TWO	
BT	
1458Z	
K	
	RRRR
2 (until all answer)	
e (direct dat mineral)	Ks
TX	D-18
BT	
TURN	
PORT	
TWO	
TWO BT	
K	
77	RRRR
	23.54.70.40

The two signals TURN PORT TWO and SPEED EIGHT are unexecuted and may be executed together or singly in the normal manner.

617. CANCELLING MESSAGES

- a. Once the executive signal has been made, a message cannot be cancelled.
- b. An executive method message awaiting execution can only be cancelled by a separate non-executive method message.
- c. To cancel all messages awaiting execution, the prosign NEGAT is transmitted. NEGAT preceded by a call cancels all executive method messages addressed to that call.

2 DE C36 BT NEGAT BT 1512Z K

d. To cancel only one, or a portion of several messages awaiting execution, the prosign NEGAT must be followed by identification data, consisting of a repetition of the text which it is desired to cancel.

EXAMPLE:

The following message is awaiting execution:

2 DE C23 IX BT FORM ONE TACK TURN STBD ONE EIGHT BT K

To cancel TURN STBD ONE EIGHT, C23 transmits:

2 DE C23 BT NEGAT TURN STBD ONE EIGHT BT 12122 K (or AR)

e. When a message is awaiting execution and a portion of it has been cancelled or executed only the remainder of that message is considered to be outstanding.

618. PLASHING WITH AIRCRAFT

- a. When flashing with aircraft, the following points must be borne in mind:
- (1) Flashing is only possible when the aircraft is occupying certain positions relative to the line of sight from the station with which flashing is taking place; consequently, owing to the rapid movement of the aircraft, the signaler may find that the time that the aircraft is in a favorable signaling position is very short.
- (2) The signaler in an aircraft may not have anyone to write down the message for him. He may have to read the whole of the message, and write it down from memory, or write down each word before sending a flash. It may therefore be advisable with long messages to use double-flash procedure.
- (3) The aircraft should be maneuvered into a favorable position for the signaler to have an unobstructed view for as long a period as possible.
- (4) Accurate training of the light at all times by the sending operator is of the utmost importance.
 - b. Calling.
 - (1) Aircraft are called by means of AA, the unknown station call.
- (2) Many aircraft cannot signal by flashing and an answer should not always be expected. If no answer is seen, the message is to be made through at least twice, repetitions being preceded by TMI. Receipt may be indicated by the aircraft rocking its wings.

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CHAPTER 7

SEMAPHORE

781. GENERAL

- a. Standard semaphore apparatus consists of two hand flags, generally 15 to 18 inches square, of design similar to either flags OSCAR or PAPA, attached to staffs about 22 inches long.
 - b. The standard semaphore characters are illustrated in Plate I.

702. TRANSMITTING

- a. Care is to be exercised in selecting the position from which to send a semaphore message, in order that a good background may be obtained.
- b. The characters are to be formed in the same plane as the sender's shoulders with staffs at their full extent, forefingers along the staffs. When making the front sign, the flags should be crossed in front of the body.
- c. A distinct pause is to be made at each character according to the rate of sending. When transmitting prosigns, operating signals and abbreviations, this pause is to be of double duration. A double duration pause at each character is also recommended when transmitting coded groups.
- d. The front sign is made at the end of each word, group, prosign or operating signal. Where double letters occur, the arms are to be dropped to the front sign after the first letter is made, and then moved to the second letter without pausing.

703. RATE OF SIGNALING

- a. Semaphore messages should be transmitted at a rate consistent with the capabilities of the receiving operator.
- b. Semaphore messages being transmitted to more than one receiving station should always be made at a moderate rate by the originating ship and by ships relaying.

784. READING

- a. The direction sign shows the direction of transmission.
- b. The characters as a general rule are made facing the ships called.

705. SIGNALING PROSIGNS AND OPERATING SIGNALS

Prosigns and operating signals are signaled as groups, e.g., FM, IMI, QRK.

706. NUMERALS

Numerals occurring in all components of a semaphore message shall be spelled out. If it is desired that numerals be recorded as digits they shall be preceded and followed by the numerals sign, except in the heading and ending where numerals or numeral pennants are always recorded as digits.

707. TRANSMISSION OF SIGNALS FROM A SIGNAL BOOK

- a. In the heading.
 - (1) Letters will be sent as characters.
 - (2) Numerals or numeral pennants will be spelled out but recorded as digits.
- b. In the text.
 - (1) Letters and numerals comprising a signal group will be spelled out.
 - (2) Call signs will be transmitted in accordance with paragraph 286.b.
 - (3) The use of the executive method by semaphore is not authorized.

788. SPECIAL CHARACTERS

- a. Answering Sign Used as an answer to a call. If necessary, the answering sign may be preceded by a call sign to denote the station answered.
- b. Attention Sign Used as a preliminary call by semaphore and to establish communication.
- c. Direction Sign Used after the attention sign to indicate the direction of transmission.
 - d. Front Sign See subparagraph 702.d.
- e. Numeral Sign Used before and after each group of numerals, or groups of mixed letters and numerals in the text which are to be recorded and coutned as a signle group consisting of letters and digits.
- f. Separative Sign The separative sign in semaphore is a special character made by sending the characters II as one group. It is used in accordance with paragraph 321.
- g. The following examples illustrate the use of these signs which are indicated as follows:

```
Attention - Asterisk (*) Numeral - Number Sign (*)
Front - Colon (:) Direction - Percent Sign (%)
Separative - Hyphen (-)
```

(1) Message transmitted in abbreviated form. Message is addressed to C19 and was originated and transmitted by D26:

```
* : % : - :
FM : D : TWO : SIX: - :
TO : C : ONE : NINE :
BT :
SEARCH : AREA : ONE : TWO : BRAVO : COMPLETING : NOT : LATER :
THAN : # : ONE : EIGHT : ZERO : ZERO : ZULU : # :
BT :
SEARCH : AREA : ONE : TWO : BRAVO : COMPLETING : NOT : LATER :
THAN : # : ONE : EIGHT : ZERO : ZERO : ZULU : # :
BT : ONE : TWO : FIVE : ZERO : Z :
K :

Recorded as:
FM Dp2p6 -
TO Cp1p9
BT
SEARCH AREA ONE TWO BRAVO COMPLETING NOT LATER THAN 1888Z BT
```

(2) Message transmitted in plaindress form. Message is addressed to D76 and F43 and was originated and transmitted by R72:

```
* : % :
- : P : - : ONE : SIX : ONE : SEVEN : ONE : EIGHT : Z : - :
FM : R : SEVEN : TWO : - :
TO : D : SEVEN : SIX : - :
INFO : F : FOUR : THREE :
GR : FOUR :
BT :
AVOLO : TSAPI : HNUMY : ETERA :
BT :
K
Message recorded as:
```

- P - 1617182 -FM R72 -TO D76 -INPO F43 GR4 BT

1250Z K

708.q.(2) (Continued)

AVOLO TSAPI HNUMY ETERA

(3) Groups containing mixed letters and numerals in the text are to be counted as one group.

> Transmitted: # : LIMA : FOUR : HOTEL : TWO : # : L4H2 Written:

(4) Groups containing punctuation symbols authorized in paragraph 186.a.(2), in the text are to be counted as one group.

Transmitted: # : ONE : TWO : FIVE : XE : THREE : # : AND : XE :
OR : # : FIVE : SIX : SEVEN : XE : ALFA : BRAVO :
EIGHT : AAA : SIX : # :

Written: 125/3 and/or 567/AB8.6 (3 groups)

NOTE: When checking group count (see paragraph 413.b), groups such as those shown in examples (3) and (4) above will be indicated by the first effective letter or numeral in the group.

789. SPECIAL SEMAPHORE ABBREVIATIONS

a. Move Signs - Used by receiving station to direct the sender to move to a better sending position. They are:

ML - Move to your left, as you face me. MR - Move to your right, as you face me.

MU - Move up.

b. SEM - The abbreviation SEM may be used in calling and answering by flashing light to indicate that a semaphore message will follow, or that the transmitting station is to use semaphore.

719. CALLING

- a. A call by semaphore is made by transmitting the call sign of the station called, or if practicable by just making the attention sign. It may be answered either by making the answering sign C by semaphore, or by transmitting the prosign K by flashing light or by hoisting ANS.
- b. The call for a semaphore message may be made by flashing light, in which case it is answered by flashing light. After being answered by flashing light, the transmitting station then indicates that a semaphore transmission will follow by use of the abbreviation SEM.
 - c. The call for a semaphore message may be made by flaghoist as follows:
- (1) The calling station hoists the call signs of the stations called above flag JULIETT. When calling all ships and stations within visual range flag JULIETT may be used alone. DESIG hoisted below JULIETT indicates that a priority message awaits transmission. If it is desired to indicate any higher precedence the appropriate precedence prosign may be hoisted below DESIG.
- (2) The receiving ship hoists the call sign of the transmitting station above ANS at the dip when seen, close up when ready to receive, and hauls down to indicate receipt. When no confusion could arise, the call may be omitted.

711. REPETITIONS

The receiving station shall allow the transmitting station to complete the transmission of the message before requesting a repetition. Repetitions are obtained as described in Chapter 4.

712. INTERRUPTION OF TRANSMISSION OR RECEPTION

The transmitting station may dip the call signs of the receiving stations to indicate that he is required to wait; the receiving stations should then dip their answering hoists until the transmitting station again hoists the call signs close up. The transmitting station may also use the prosing AS; by semaphore as described in Chapter 3. The receiving stations may dip their answering hoists to indicate that they are unable to receive.

713. RECEIPTING

- a. Receipt for a semaphore message is given by:
 - (1) Making R by semaphore or flashing light.
 - (2) Hauling down the answering hoist.

714. EXECUTIVE METHOD BY SEMAPHORE

The use of the executive method by semaphore is not authorized.

715. RELAY

- a. Where relay is involved, relaying stations should endeavor to pass on the message as rapidly as possible and should not wait for the original transmitting station to complete the message before commencing its retransmission.
- b. A station which is repeating the message as received and which misses a portion may substitute the operating signal ZEP* for the missing portion and proceed with the transmission. When the missing portion is obtained it is transmitted in the form of a correction.

"ZEP means "This message (or message....) was incompletely received. Each word or group missed, which is indicated by position of ZEP in the message, will be forwarded as soon as obtained."

716. EXAMPLES

When calling and answering by flaghoist.

Transmitting Station

Receiving Stations

Hoists call signs of units for which message is intended over JULIETT. If calling all ships in visual range, JULIETT alone may be hoisted.

Hoists call sign of transmitting station over ANS at the dip as soon as seen and close up when ready to receive. ANS alone may be used when no confusion will result.

When all stations have hoisted ANS close up commences transmission. If transmission is temporarily interrupted call should be dipped until ready to resume.

Keeps ANS hoisted close up while receiving, dips hoist if unable to receive for any reason.

Upon completion of single message hauls down. If more than one message makes B K by semaphore, dips hoist until ready to send second message. Hoists call close up and resumes transmission. (See paragraph 309.b.)

716.a. (Continued)

Hauls down on receipt of single message. If more than one message dips hoist to receipt for first message and close up to indicate readiness for next. Request for repetitions and relaying of first message may be initiated at this point if normal transmission is not interrupted. (See paragraph 369.b.)

Hauls down on completion of transmission of last message.

Dips hoist to indicate receipt of last message. Hauls down when relaying responsibilities completed. No ship will haul down until all messages are completely received.

b. When calling and answering by flashing light (one ship only).

Transmitting Station

Receiving Stations

Call by flashing light.

Makes K

SEM

Makes K

Proceeds with message using semaphore.

Receipts by light or semaphore.

c. When calling and answering by semaphore.

Transmitting Station

Receiving Stations

Makes call by semaphore.

Makes C by semaphore or K by light.

Proceeds with message using semaphore.

Makes R by semaphore or light.

CHAPTER 8

FLAGHOIST

881. PLAGS AND PENNANTS

Flags and pennants to be used in flaghoist communication are shown on Plate II.

802. CALL SIGNS, ADDRESS GROUPS AND SEQUENCE NUMBERS

- a. Call signs, address groups and sequence numbers may be used in conjunction with signals from the Allied Maritime Tactical Signal Book or national or regional defense organization publications to complete, amplify or vary the meaning of signals as follows:
 - (1) To address ships, units or commands, in which case they precede the signal.
- (2) To indicate or denote ships, units or commands referred to in the meaning of the signal, in which case they follow the entire signal.

803. MESSAGE CONSTRUCTION

A flaghoist message contains two parts - the heading and the text.

804. THE HEADING

The heading precedes the text and usually consists of only action addressees, although it may include information and exempted addressees.

805. OMISSION OF ADDRESS

- a. The address may be omitted under the following circumstances:
- By the Officer in Tactical Command (OTC) (in port the Senior Officer Present Afloat (SOPA)) on signals addressed to all ships.
- (2) By ships addressing the OTC who are in direct visual communication with him and no relay will be required, provided no confusion will result.
- (3) By ships or commands on emergency alarm signals addressed to the OTC. (See paragraph 816.)

886. MODIFICATION OF HEADING

- a. The heading of a flag signal may be modified by use of the four substitutes as follows:
- (1) FIRST SUB over the call sign of the originator hoisted where best seen means: "The originator of this signal is Intervening ships relay this signal to the addressees or to the OTC if there is no addressee."
- (2) SECOND SUB in place of the address means: "For general information: no specific address; no answer required."
- (3) THIRD SUB preceding the address means: "This signal, in addition to being addressed to certain ships for action, is for general information and is to be relayed and answered as an 'all ships signal'."
- (4) FOURTH SUB at the yardarm means: "Accompanying signals are taken from ATP 2, VOL II" or national or regional defense organization publications.

807. CONSTRUCTION OF HEADING

- a. In constructing flaghoist calls, numerals are expressed by numeral pennants, except when numeral flags are specifically indicated.
- b. In flaghoist signaling information and exempted addressees are indicated by flag W and the NEGAT pennant respectively. A tackline must often be used to separate call signs to avoid ambiguous combinations of flags in heading and must always be used to separate W from the call sign preceding and/or following it in the same hoist.
- Action and information In a flaghoist having both action and information addressees, the elements are arranged as follows:

807.b.(1) (Continued)

- (a) Call signs of action addressees.
- (b) Flag W followed by call signs of information addressees.

EXAMPLE:

```
ACTION - - - - - All ships under my tactical command INFO - - - - - Commander this Task Force HOIST - - - - - pl TACK W TACK p8p6
```

- (2) Exemption To exempt a station from a collective call sign used in a flaghoist heading, the elements are arranged as follows:
 - (a) Call signs of addressees.
- (b) NEGAT followed by call signs of exempted addressees. (Exempted addressees do not answer and take no action.)

EXAMPLE:

```
ACTION - - - - - - All ships under my tactical command EXEMPT - - - - - Screen HOIST - - - - - pl NEGAT p5
```

- (3) Information and exemption To indicate simultaneously information and exempted addressees, the elements are arranged as follows:
 - (a) Call signs of action addressees.
 - (b) Flag W followed by call signs of information addressees.
- (c) NEGAT followed by call signs of exempted addressees. (Exempted addressees do not answer and take no action.)

EXAMPLE:

```
ACTION - - - - - - All ships under my tactical command INFO - - - - - Commander this Task Force EXEMPT - - - - - Screen HOIST - - - - - pl TACK W TACK p@p6 NEGAT p5
```

(4) Information - To indicate information addressees only, flag W followed by call signs of information addressees may be used.

808. TEXT

The text will consist of such prescribed signals and plain language as may be necessary to convey the subject matter expressed by the originator.

869. USE OF TACKLINE (TACK)

- a. A tackline is a length of halyard approximately six feet long; the exact length depends upon the size of flags in use. It is transmitted and spoken TACK, and is used:
- (1) To avoid ambiguity. It separates signals or groups of numerals which, if not separated, could convey a different meaning from that intended.
- (2) When, for the needs of a particular signal, the instructions order that a tackline be used.

818. HOISTING FLAG SIGNALS

- a. A flaghoist is said to be "close up" when its top is touching the block at the point of hoist. Signals when hoisted by the originating station are normally hoisted close up.
- b. A flaghoist is said to be "at the dip" (dipped) when hoisted three-fourths of the way up towards the point of hoist. Flaghoists made in answer to or to repeat the original signal are normally hoisted at the dip, until understood, when they are hoisted

810.b. (Continued)

close up. Relaying ships are always to repeat flaghoists at the dip until they have been acknowledged by ships for which they are responsible, after which they hoist the flaghoist close up. (See Paragraph 813.)

- c. A flaghoist is said to be "hauled down" when it is returned to the deck. The moment of hauling down is the moment of execution unless:
 - (1) Time of execution is otherwise indicated. (See paragraph 813.c.)
 - (2) Signal is to be acted upon as soon as understood. (See paragraph 813.d.)
- (3) Signification of a signal indicates that it is to be executed on dipping. (See paragraph 813.e.)
- d. Best results are achieved in flaghoist communication when signals can be made as a single hoist and hauled down before another hoist is made. If the hoist is of such length that it cannot be displayed on one halyard, then it is to be broken where a tack would be normally inserted. If the complete signal cannot be made on three halyards it is usually advisable to make two or more hoists. When this is done, the heading is hoisted and kept flying close up while successive hoists are made.
- e. A Commander when making signals to the ships of his unit should, whenever possible, leave a superior position vacant for relaying the OTC's signals.
- f. To describe the relative positions of flags in a hoist the terms "above" and "below" are used.
- g. Signals should be hoisted at the minimum interval of time before they are to be executed and they should only be kept flying for as long as it is necessary for ships to relay, and acknowledge the signals. The object of this is to ensure that flag hoisting will always be rapidly carried out whether the signal is made in an emergency or not, and that this channel of communication is kept clear for additional signals.
- h. Signals are to be hoisted where they can be most clearly seen by the receiving ships, if necessary hoisting the signal on both sides of the mast. Where the signification of the signal specifies the position of the flags, these insturctions take precedence.
- Subject to the above principle, "all ships" signals are to be hoisted at a superior position and are to be answered/relayed at a superior position.
- j. When a display consists of two or more hoists, which will be flying at the same time, the hoists are to leave the deck in the order in which they are to be read.
- k. Whenever flags are hoisted, they are to be kept clear. If there is not enough wind to blow the flags out so that they can be easily read, the hoists should be kept on the move.

811. ORDER OF READING PLAG SIGNALS

- a. Order of flaghoists.
 - (1) Flags of a single hoist are to be read from the top down.
 - (2) Adjacent hoists are to be read from outboard in or from forward aft.
- (3) When several flaghoists are displayed simultaneously, they are to be read in the following order:
 - (a) Masthead
 - (b) Triatic stay
 - (c) Starboard yardarm
 - (d) Port yardarm
- b. A flaghoist which is to be read before another which is flying at the same time, may be described as being in a "superior position." Conversely, a flaghoist which is to be read after another is referred to as being in an "inferior position."

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812. ANSWERING AND ACKNOWLEDGING FLAG SIGNALS

- a. A flaghoist is normally answered by addressees repeating the entire hoist at the dip. Heavy ships and unit commanders will always repeat flag for flag. Small ships will normally act in the same manner, but when signaling conditions warrant they may use ANS alone, or below the call of the originator when this is necessary to avoid confusion.
- b. A flag officer or unit commander may answer a flaghoist addressed to him from a ship or unit commander junior to him, by hoisting ANS at the dip, either alone or below the originator's call.
- c. Acknowledgement is effected by hoisting the signal or ANS close up. Signals shall be hoisted close up when understood and by repeating ships when all addressees for whom they are responsible have acknowledged.
- d. When ANS is used to acknowledge a signal, and if a further signal is hoisted after acknowledgement has been given, ANS is to be dipped and rehoisted close up when the subsequent signal is acknowledged.
- e. When an addressee cannot determine the meaning of a hoist or desires to question the meaning, the signal, or ANS shall be kept at the dip, and TNT (below the originator's call sign if necessary) shall be hoisted.
- f. Requests may be acknowledged by a senior officer by hoisting CHARLIE (affirmative) or NEGAT (below the call of the ship making the request, if necessary). Such signal constitutes both receipt and answer.

813. EXECUTING PLAG SIGNALS

- a. A flag signal is executed when it is hauled down by the originator, unless otherwise indicated.
- b. When a time signal is used it applies only to the group immediately preceding it. When it is required to apply to two or more groups preceding it, BRAVO TANGO is inserted before, and separated by TACK from, the first of the groups to which the time signal is to apply.
- c. If BRAVO TANGO is hoisted separately as the first hoist and left flying during several succeeding hoists, all hoists made in this period will be executed when BRAVO TANGO is hauled down. No time signal is needed with this method of execution.
- d. Certain signals, however, are acted upon as soon as understood. (A note to this effect will be found against the signification of such signals in the Allied Maritime Tactical Signal Book.) Any signal preceded by EMERG is to be acted upon as soon as understood. Ships having relay responsibilities will not repeat close up until all ships for which they are responsible have answered/repeated close up.
- e. In addition there are certain signals which are partially executed by dipping the signal. Instructions for these signals are given in the signification of the signal.
- f. All addressees and relaying ships haul down with the originator, except when directed by a subordinate unit commander to delay execution.
- g. When a signal is executed by more than one means, e.g., radio and visual, the first order to execute received will govern the time of execution.

814. CANCELLING A SIGNAL

- a. Flaghoist signals are cancelled by the following uses of NEGAT:
- (1) When only one flag signal is flying, NEGAT hoisted on an adjacent halyard cancels the signal.
- (2) When two or more flag signals are flying under the same call NEGAT hoisted on an adjacent halyard cancels all signals flying. If only one signal is to be cancelled, it must be repeated preceded by NEGAT.
- (3) When "all ships" signals and specifically addressed signals are flying at the same time, NEGAT without a call preceding cancels all signals without a call and NEGAT with a call preceding cancels all signals under a similar call. If only one signal of several under the same call is to be cancelled, it must be repeated, preceded by NEGAT under the same call.

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814. (Continued)

b. The cancelling signal and the signal cancelled are to be hauled down together when all addressees have acknowledged.

815. CORRECTING A SIGNAL

- a. Flaghoist signals are corrected as follows:
- (1) An originating ship cancels the signal in question, then hoists correct signal.
- (2) A repeating ship hoists the signal meaning "Signal is repeated incorrectly" on an adjacent halyard, then hauls down both signals. The correct signal is then hoisted.

816. EMERGENCY ALARM SIGNALS

- a. When emergency alarm signals are hoisted the originator is also to:
 - (1) Sound six short blasts on the whistle.
- (2) Pass the emergency alarm signals to the OTC by the most expeditious means authorized.
- b. The flag signal is to be repeated by all ships. If originated by other that the OTC, the visual call sign of the originator is to be hoisted below FIRST SUB.

817. EXPEDITING OF FLAGHOIST SIGNALING

- a. An originating ship may pass its signal by light if there is doubt that its flags can be clearly seen.
- b. Directional or non-directional light, applying appropriate procedure, may be used. The operating signal ZJL meaning "Hoist the following signal" may be included.
- (1) If directional procedure is used, the signal will be receipted for by light and acknowledged in the normal flaghoist manner. The executive signal need not be made by directional light when the flag signal is hauled down.
- (2) If non-directional procedure is used and no ship will answer, the signal may be repeated as often as necessary with repetitions being separated by IMI and ships will acknowledge by flaghoist. The executive signal will be made by light as the flag signal is hauled down.
- c. If a special flaghoist task organization call sign appears in the hoist, the numeral flag will be spelled out and the numeral pennants transmitted as morse symbols, e.g., "SIX 45" for Task Force 45. When a substitute appears as the first flag of a hoist it will be transmitted as FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, or FOURTH, as appropriate.

818. RELAYING

- a. General relaying responsibilities are as laid down is Chapter 5 with additional instructions for flaghoist signaling given below.
 - (1) Signals are to be relayed by any ship in a position to help by so doing.
- (2) Whenever practicable, ships which repeat the OTC's signals are to do so on halyards corresponding to his.
- b. If the OTC hauls down a signal before all ships have acknowledged, ships which have answered the signal hoist it close up, and haul down immediately. Relaying ships are to pass the signal by light to ships for whom they are responsible who have not acknowledged the signal.
 - c. Relaying signals from the OTC:
- Signals are relayed at the dip, and hoisted close up when the ships addressed have acknowledged.
 - (2) The originator is not indicated.

818, (Continued)

- d. Relaying signals from ships other than the OTC to ships other than the OTC:
- (1) The originating ship hoists FIRST SUB followed by her call sign, the call sign of the addressee and the text. If the identity of the originator will be evident to all ships within visual communication range, FIRST SUB followed by the call sign of the originator need not be hoisted.
- (2) The relaying ship hoists FIRST SUB above the call sign of the originator close up, followed by the call sign of the addressee and the text at the dip (hoisted close up when the ship addressed has acknowledged).

C58 originates a signal to be relayed to C34 by C33:

5

C58

C33

C34

Hoists

Pirst hoist close up lst C p5 p8 Second hoist close up C p3 p4 A

Hoists

Pirst hoist close up 1st C p5 p8 Second hoist at dip C p3 p4 A

Hoists

First hoist close up lst C p5 p8

Second hoist at dip C p3 p4 A D

Second hoist close up to acknowledge

Close up to indicate acknowledgement by addressee

Hauls down

Hauls down

Hauls down

e. Relaying signals to the OTC:

Signals from individual ships to the OTC are relayed as in d. above except that

818.e. (Continued)

the call sign of the OTC is considered to be understood and is omitted. (See paragraph 806.a.(1).)

819. ENTERING AND LEAVING PORT

Unless directed otherwise, ships entering or leaving port during daylight will hoist their international signal letters. Visual call signs, address groups, and berth assignments may also be prescribed.

828. SPEED PLAGS

- a. In order to facilitate station keeping, the speed at which a ship is proceeding may be indicated by small size numeral flags displayed from the navigation bridge or by regular size numeral flags at the dip from an outboard signal halyard.
- b. Care is to be taken when indicating speeds of ten knots and over that the flag indicating tens is shown above that indicating units.
- c. Speed flags are normally used only when entering or leaving harbor in formation, or when ordered by the unit commander.
- d. Specific details on the use of the foregoing are found in the Allied Maritime Tactical Instructions and Procedures.

821. SHIFTING BERTHS

Ships shifting berths within a harbor will conform to local regulations on the display of international signal letters and berth assignments.

CHAPTER 9

MISCELLANEOUS SYSTEMS

SECTION 1 - PYROTECHNICS

901. USE

The use of pyrotechnics for communications is limited to certain prescribed pyrotechnic signals.

902. DISTRESS

- a. Any single red pyrotechnic light displayed singly or in succession is an international signal meaning an aircraft in distress.
- b. A gun, or other explosive signal or pyrotechnic of any color or description fired at short intervals is an international signal meaning a ship in distress.

983. LIMITATIONS

All communication by pyrotechnics is limited to prearranged pyrotechnic signals as set forth in ACP 168.

SECTION II - SOUND

984. DISTRESS

The continuous sounding of any fog signal apparatus is a signal of distress.

905. WHISTLES, SIRENS, BELLS, ETC.

The International Morse Code and special signals are used for this means of communication. When transmitting by whistle, siren, fog horn, or other devices with which the length of sound can be controlled, a short blast represents a dot and a long blast a dash; for transmitting with a device which is struck to create the sound, such as a bell, gong, drum, etc., a single stroke represents a dot and two rapid strokes represent a dash.

986. LIMITATIONS

- a. The use of sound for communication is normally limited to certain specified sound signals. Among the more commonly encountered of these are the signals prescribed for vessels in the "Rules of the Road," air raid alerts, and similar signals. When sound signals are used in special circumstances, as shown below, care must be exercised that they do not conflict with more commonly used signals and thereby confuse ships or stations not familiar with the special signal.
- b. Sound signals other than those included in the "Rules of the Road" are not to be employed in pilotage waters and are only to be used in an emergency when short range radio is prohibited or is not available, or for the sounding of visual call signs on occasions when the Officer in Tactical Command (OTC) may wish to ascertain which ships are within hearing distance.
- c. Sound may only be used by the OTC or by an individual ship having vital information to report to the OTC.
- d. Complete instructions for sound communication between ships in convoy are contained in ATP 2, VOL II or appropriate national or regional defense organization publications.

907. FORM OF MESSAGE

- a. No heading or ending is used in sound signaling. The text only is to be made twice through separated by a pause.
- b. Messages made by any ship other than the OTC are to be followed by the call sign of that ship.

908. RECEIPTING

a. When sound is used by the OTC at least one ship should be directed by him to repeat back or to receipt for the signal.

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988. (Continued)

- b. When sound is used by an individual ship the OTC is always to receipt for the signal with that ship's call sign followed by R. No ship is to relay.
- c. A ship may be ordered to receipt by making that ship's call sign followed by K. It receipts by making DE, its call sign, followed by R.

989. THE EXECUTIVE SIGNAL

- a. In those signals which require it, the executive signal is to consist of a 5 second blast and is to follow immediately after the repetition of the text.
- b. The execute to follow prosign $\overline{\text{IX}}$ is not to be used either in the text or to precede the 5 second blast.
- c. The signal is executed on the termination of the 5 second blast. Ships are not to wait for any ship that may be ordered to receipt or repeat back. When ships are ordered to repeat back they are to include the executive signal if one has been used.

EXAMPLE A:

The OTC orders all ships to stop engines:

SPEED SIERRA (pause) SPEED SIERRA (5 second blast) C78 G

All ships stop engines on the termination of the 5 second blast; the cruiser whose visual call sign is C78 makes:

SPEED SIERRA (pause) SPEED SIERRA (5 second blast)

EXAMPLE B:

An individual ship reports a man overboard to the OTC:

OSCAR (pause) OSCAR (pause) C2

The OTC makes:

C2 R

EXAMPLE C:

The OTC signals SPEED EIGHT and orders C78 to receipt for it:

SPEED EIGHT (pause) SPEED EIGHT (5 second blast) C78 K

C78 makes:

DE C78R

910. IDENTIFICATION OF SHIPS

- a. Occasions may arise when the OTC will wish to determine which ships are within hearing. This may be done by the OTC sounding the signal meaning "Sound your visual call sign" made only once.
- b. On hearing this signal ships are to reply by sounding their visual call sign once only without call or ending as follows:
 - (1) If addressed to an individual ship immediately on hearing the signal.
- (2) If addressed to more than one ship the ships will answer in alphabetical sequence of call signs.
- (3) If no ship sounds within 30 seconds of her proper turn, the next ship is to sound without waiting.

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SECTION III - INPRA-RED COMMUNICATION

911. GENERAL

Infra-red communication is a night visual communication method with the added complication that the receiver, unlike the human eye is directional. This complication introduces the necessity for a somewhat rigid system of visual responsibility, and a necessity for the transmitting operator to "control the circuit" as is done in radio.

912. BASIC FORMS

- Infra-red communication is further divided into two basic forms:
- (1) Directional, using the standard signal searchlights with filters, or special purpose equipment.
- Non-directional, using a large infra-red yardarm signaling light, with non-directional procedure.

913. INTERFERENCE

To reduce interference, infra-red communications between separate ships are generally directional. A station having traffic for wide distribution will normally use non-directional procedure.

914. GUARDSHIPS

The officer prescribing a fleet disposition and officers commanding formations therein will designate the infra-red guardships and promulgate the chain of visual responsibility.

915. INDICATING TRAFFIC FOR STATIONS

Before commencing transmission of a long message, the transmitting station should broadcast an operating signal and traffic list indicating the stations for whom he has traffic. In this way outlying stations may secure their equipment if there is no traffic for them.

916. CALLING PERIODS

- a. In order to reduce confusion in routine calling and communication, OTCs may prescribe calling periods and instructions for delivery of traffic. The general rule to be followed is that the OTC or guardship, as the case may be, will:
- Call stations and, by means of an operating signal and a traffic list, indicate those for whom he has traffic.
 - (2) Deliver traffic, repetitions, etc.
- (3) Receive traffic by predetermined schedule, or when alerted by the term "Nancy" on the voice radio.

917. POINT OF TRAIN LIGHT (POT)

The POT is a steady infra-red light used to assist the sender in locating the receiving station and in keeping his light properly trained. It is turned on to indicate that a station is communicating, or is ready to communicate with infra-red. It is turned off at other times.

918. PROCEDURE

- Directional At scheduled times or when alerted by voice radio, ships having traffic will turn on POT, locate the ships with whom they wish to communicate, and commence transmitting with directional infra-red searchlights using flashing procedure.
- b. Non-directional Infra-red procedure is the same as non-directional flashing light procedure. The non-directional light will normally be used for multiple address messages.

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919. NAVIGATIONAL AIDS

Directional infra-red systems may be used as navigational aids in assualt tactics.

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928. USES OF INPRA-RED IN AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS

- a. In amphibious operations, infra-red communication between ship and shore normally will be initiated after request by radiotelephone or flashing light. At the scheduled time ships will turn on their POT to aid the shore stations in locating them.
- b. Signals from the shore may be weak and it will be easy to confuse them with bursts of gunfire. Therefore, accurate locations of shore parties should be obtained from a plot whenever possible.

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