

## ANNEX J (MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND (MSC))

### **REFERENCES:**

- (a) COMSC OPOD 9200, Current Operations (LR)
- (b) COMSC Logistic Support and Mobilization Plan (LR)
- (c) COMSCINST 5440.2K, Boundaries of MSC Area and Subarea Commands (LR)
- (d) COMSCINST 3400.2, Chemical, Biological, Radiological Defense (CBR-D) Material Conditions of Readiness Policy (LR)
- (e) U.S. Navy, Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Defense, Handbook for Training (LR)
- (f) NAVSHIPTECHMAN 470, Shipboard BW/CW Defense and Countermeasures (LR)
- (g) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 35-Canal Zone Regulations, Part 113.2
- (h) COMSCINST 3120.17, Dry Cargo Ship Operating Instructions (CARGOPINS) (LR)
- (i) COMSCINST 8023.1, Safety Regulations Governing the Handling and Transportation of Ammunition and other Hazardous Cargoes (LR)
- (j) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 46- Shipping, Parts 90-109 and 146-149
- (k) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49- Transportation, Parts 171-178
- (l) Departments of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force AR 740-32, OPNAVINST 8070.1, AFR 136-4 MCO.25, Responsibilities for Technical Escort of Dangerous Material (LR) “
- (m) COMSCINST 3120.2, Administrative and Operating Procedures for MSC Ships (less Contract Operated Tankers) (LR)
- (n) NAVSEA OP 5 VOL. 1, Ammunition and Explosives Ashore (LR)

### **1. GENERAL**

a. The establishment of **specific** Military Sealift Command (MSC) responsibilities and authority has been accomplished through the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) in accordance with DoD Directive 5160.10. SECNAV, as the Single Manager for Sealift, is responsible to the Secretary of Defense for the **management**, organization, and **operation** of the ocean transportation assignment. Commander, Military Sealift Command (COMSC) is designated the Executive Director for the **Single** Manager Operating Agency for **Sealift**. COMSC is, therefore, designated to receive the common-user sea transportation space requirements from the military services and to provide (or procure, as necessary) the space requested in accordance with the policies and procedures established by SECNAV.

b. The general mission of the Military Sealift Command is:

(1) To provide responsive sealift support for U.S. forces deployed in accordance with contingency requirements, general war plans, or national emergency.

(2) To plan for and develop **sealift** capability in peacetime for support of DoD wartime requirements.

(3) To provide logistical sealift support in peacetime for **all** elements of the DoD by worldwide movement of cargo and personnel in response to DoD requirements.

(4) To operate assigned fleet support ships for the U.S. Navy in time of peace and **war**.

(5) To fulfill all nontransportation, ocean shipping requirements of the DoD other than those which are the responsibility of the U.S. Navy Fleet Commanders-in-Chief.

MSC operations in support of its mission are conducted in accordance with References (a) and (b) and various instructions promulgated by **COMSC**.

d. General responsibilities of MSC and subordinate commands are:

..... (1) **Commander, Military Sealift Command (COMSC):**

(a) Within the mission of MSC, provide ocean transportation planning support to the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (**OJCS**), the Commanders-in-Chief of unified and specified commands (**CINCs**), the military services, and the DoD agencies in support of the plans of the JCS and other military operations as required.

(b) Provide ocean transportation support to the DoD **components**, as required.

(c) Develop, establish, and operate an integrated transportation information data system to support the mission of the agency.

(d) Develop plans to assure the efficient use and control of **government-owned** and commercial ocean transportation resources made available to the DoD under mobilization or other emergency conditions.

(e) Procure ships outside the MSC fleet by **bareboat**, time or voyage charter, or by allocation **from** other government agencies. Procure passenger and cargo space in commercial ships to meet the requirements of the Department of Defense and such other **agencies** of the U.S. Government as authorized by the **Secretary** of Defense. The DoD agencies may be authorized by MSC to purchase passenger space on an individual transportation request basis. When procuring cargo space in commercial ships, any contract provisions relating to the working of cargo, terminal facilities, or other responsibilities of the military departments or the Military Traffic Management Command (**MTMC**) will be coordinated with the military departments or MTMC as appropriate, prior to inclusion in MSC contracts.

(f) Keep **MTMC** informed, to the extent mutually agreed necessary, as to the availability of opportune MSC ocean lift including coastal and intercostal lift capacity.

(g) Meet all requirements of the Department of Defense and other agencies as authorized for ships and craft for purposes other than transportation, such as research, survey, oceanographic, cable laying, repair **facilities**, and range instrumentation ships.

(h) Provide or arrange for the maintenance, repair, and alteration of all Government-owned ships assigned to MSC, and the maintenance and repair of any ships acquired through **bareboat** charter to MSC.

(i) Coordinate with MTMC in the booking of outbound ocean cargo, passengers, and mail and with the military services or the theater commander as appropriate for retrograde, **intratheater**, or intertheater ocean cargo, passenger, and mail movements.

(j) Approve stowage plans and their implementation to ensure seaworthiness of the ship, safety of the cargo, and efficient use of ship space. (The responsibility of MSC for cargo normally begins when finally stowed on board and accepted by the master/commanding officer of the ship and terminates when the cargo is accepted **free** on board at destination.)

(k) Book, billet, and exercise control of **all** passengers aboard MSC ships and book and billet passengers in commercial space procured by MSC. Administrative control may be exercised by the commander of personnel assigned by the military services concerned. (The responsibility of MSC for passengers begins when the passenger embarks and terminates when the passenger debarks.)

(l) Coordinate MSC operations with appropriate port authorities.

(m) Manage, process, determine, and settle claims by or against commercial carriers **and/or** the Government arising out of MSC contracts for ocean transportation of personnel, cargo, mail, and bulk petroleum.

(n) Provide ocean transportation rates when requested by the military departments and **MTMC** in accordance with policies established by the Secretary of Defense.

(o) Serve as **single point** of contact with ocean carriers in regard to the negotiation of ocean rates, terms, and conditions of ocean transportation and the procurement of ocean shipping capability or ocean transportation services.

(2) **MSC Area Commands:**

(a) Area commands under the military command of **COMSC** shall exercise control of MSC activities located within the boundaries of the area of responsibility assigned to them and will, generally, exercise operational control over MSC ships located within their areas. Reference (c) applies.

(b) Area commanders shall provide appropriate fleet and other commands with all necessary information concerning MSC matters which is required by or of interest to those commands. They shall provide liaison with appropriate commands of other **services** and government agencies.

(3) **MSC Subarea Commands** shall exercise administrative control over MSC activities located within the areas assigned to them and local operational control over MSC ships from other MSC commands when these ships are within their areas of responsibility.

(4) MSC Offices (MSCOs), under the military command of the appropriate MSC area or subarea commands, shall be **responsible** for the administration of sea transportation for authorized personnel and cargo at the port level and for the local operational control of MSC ships.

(5) MSC Units, under the military command of the appropriate MSC area command, subarea command, or office, shall be responsible for the administration of sea transportation for authorized personnel and cargo at the outport level and for the **local** operational control of MSC ships.

(6) MSC Representative (MSCREP), a Naval officer or civilian assigned **primary** duty with the MSC **organization**, shall represent MSC at locations lacking an established MSC **office** or unit. He may represent MSC at his parent duty station or be assigned to an outport.

(7) An MSC Common-Service Representative is a U.S. military member, DoD civilian, or consular officer **assigned** the collateral **duty** of **representing** MSC interests in areas where the volume of MSC **shipping** does not warrant **establishment of a** MSC representative.

## 2. TOXIC CHEMICAL MUNITIONS (TCM) SUPPORT

### a. General:

(1) Comprehensive planning, prior to the arrival of the ship, is an important factor in the overall effectiveness of the actual **ship-loading** operation. The **planning** effort should take into consideration such factors as: **general preparedness** of the ship for **loading** as determined, if possible, by inspection; practical space utilization, as indicated by a preliminary cargo stowage plan; requisite handling **equipment**, dunnage lumber, and labor force, as established by close study of documented load listings and stowage plans; and scheduling and movement of cargo to the dockside loading area.

(2) MSC responsibility for cargo begins when cargo is stowed on board the ship and accepted by the shipmaster and ends when the cargo is accepted free on board at the port of debarkation.

(3) The **shipmaster** is ultimately responsible for the safety of his ship and crew. He may take such actions as he deems **necessary** to ensure safety during loading, transit, and unloading.

### b. Tasks:

#### (1) Commander, Military Sealift Command (COMSC):

(a) Provide intertheater **sealift** of toxic chemical munitions (**TCM**) as directed.

(b) Acquire ships to support TCM movements, as necessary, in accordance with references (a) and (b).

(c) Ensure that all **MSC-controlled** ships engaged in the movement of TCM are prepared with procedures and appropriate **equipment/material** necessary to carry out their mission. **Reference** (d) applies.

(d) Request as necessary, through the Secretary of Defense, the waiver of applicable navigation regulations. Waiver requests for individual vessels may be made through the applicable Coast **Guard** District Commander.

(e) Provide, on a cost reimbursement basis, berthing, messing, and logistical and administrative support for technical escorts embarked on MSC ships.

(f) Provide liaison personnel to JDA, **MTMC** and **AMCCOM** when considered desirable or necessary.

(2) **MSC Area Commanders:**

(a) Advise, assist, and inform MSC, CNO, supported **CINC(s)**, and appropriate or subordinate commands on issues involving the **transport** of TCM by **sealift**.

(b) Maintain **a capability** for MSC forces to transport TCM.

(c) In accordance with references (d), (e), and (f) and applicable COMSC instructions, develop the necessary material, equipment, and **procedural** requirements for **MSC-controlled** ships involved in movement of TCM.

(d) Ensure that **personnel** are trained and equipped to transport TCM by sealift. References (d), (e), and (f) apply.

(e) Appoint an inspector, with appropriate training, to coordinate the safety aspects of vessel loading.

(f) Ensure that **MSC-controlled** ships designated to load TCM are in a condition to receive such cargo prior to commencement of loading.

(g) Ensure that masters of ships transiting the Panama Canal with TCM have on **board** copies of reference (g) and are provided with a required Loading **Certificate** or **Declaration** of Explosive Cargo Carrier.

(h) Ensure that ships have a damage control program and a designated, properly **trained, chemical/biological/radiological** defense **officer**. Reference (d) applies.

(i) Assess the material condition of vessels carrying TCM to ensure that protection can be afforded the crew in the event of an accident that causes contamination.

(3) Military Sealift Command Offices (MSCOs):

(a) Ensure that procedures developed for the handling and transport of TCM are implemented and complied with.

(b) Coordinate with **shipmasters** to approve cargo stowage to ensure seaworthiness of the vessel and adherence to stowage directives for TCM. Reference (h) applies.

(c) Arrange **noncargo-related** port support services (**pilotage, towage, etc.**) for MSC ships involved in TCM operations.

(4) Shipmasters:

(a) Ensure that ship's cargo gear and other equipment to be involved in TCM operations are in proper operating condition prior to arrival at Port of Embarkation (POE). Ensure that there are no obstructions on deck or in other areas where TCM operations will take place.

(b) Maintain continual surveillance and conduct inspections on deck and in all holds for inadequate dunnaging, unsafe handling and stowage of loads, and any other conditions **that**, in the master's judgment, are hazardous.

(c) Issue safety orders deemed **necessary** for the safety of the ship and crew. When, in the master's **judgment**, a hazardous cargo is not being handled, stowed, secured, or manifested properly, he shall stop the operation until the improper practice or deficiency is corrected.

(d) Refer to the appropriate MSC Commander, or his representative, **and/or** the USCG Captain of the Port or Marine Safety Office any disagreement arising in U.S. ports between the master and the terminal activity regarding proper procedures.

(e) Be responsible for the readiness of the ship and crew, to meet any emergency. It is desirable that the sequence of collision, **fire**, and abandon ship drills be combined with other general drills such as decontamination of TCM and emergency first aid. When conducting training exercises in **port**, the master should request training guides, materials or other instructional assistance from the MSC Area Command Training and Safety Division.

(5) . Inspectors:

(a) Ensure that the ship's officers, crew, and any other MSC personnel involved are indoctrinated in all pertinent safety regulations and precautions. **Reference** (i) applies.

(b) Visit ships engaged in loading or discharge operations as frequently as circumstances allow. Assist masters in matters pertaining to loading and discharging operations, including liaison between the ship and the terminal activity when necessary.

c. Vessel Security:

(1) Per references (j), (k), and (l), the master of a vessel shall require an inspection of each hold or compartment containing **hazardous** material after stowage is complete and at least once every 24 hours **thereafter**. It shall be ensured that cargo is in a safe condition and that no damage caused by shifting, spontaneous heating, leaking, sifting, wetting, or other cause has been sustained by the vessel or its cargo since loading and stowage. Freight containers or individual cargoes need not be opened. An entry shall be made in the ship's log for each inspection performed.

(2) Crew members should be cautioned to remain alert for packages that mysteriously appear aboard ship. Longshoremen shall be prohibited from carrying any packages into the ship's holds, regardless of their contents; e.g., lunch boxes and like packages.

(3) Per reference (k) maximum security must be provided for specially protected cargo. It must be carefully checked in and securely stowed. Any loss of protected cargo, while in the custody of the ship, will be investigated immediately. The master shall order a search of the ship and take every possible action to recover the missing cargo. He shall report immediately to the cognizant MSC commander, stating all circumstances surrounding the incident, extent of security maintained, result of search of ship, and recommendations.

d. Decontamination/Disposal:

(1) Decontamination Whenever and wherever chemical agents have been spilled or released, it is necessary to begin decontamination operations and emergency **first** aid procedures immediately in order to protect personnel, material, and food supplies. A supply of decontamination material, adequate for **the** quantity of agent **present**, and equipment for its use will be made available at ports where chemical materials are embarked. The decontamination of personnel, equipment, and facilities requires establishment of uniform instructions to ensure proper personnel training. Reference (m) applies. Technical escorts will provide technical advice and assistance.

(2) Disposal Facilities/Emergency Destruction In accordance with reference (n), chemical agents (**lethal** poisons, incapacitating agents and **all** other hazardous chemical materials) and chemical ammunition containing these chemical agents shall be destroyed only with specific authorization from Commander, " Naval Sea Systems Command (COMNAVSEASYSCOM). Instructions for disposal of standard chemical agents and munitions are provided by the AMCCOM. These requirements in no way relieve the responsibility of the commanding officer/master for the safety of personnel and the protection of property under his jurisdiction, nor do they negate his authority to employ any means he determines necessary to safeguard life and property in the event of emergency or **unusual** circumstances.

e. Public Affairs. Due to intense national/public interest **and** policies on chemical warfare and biological research, all information relating thereto is to be released only by authority of the **Office** of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs.

f. OPR for this Annex is MSC, Code 3T4.