

OPNAVINST 3591.1G  
1 Jun 2021

# **SMALL ARMS TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION**



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
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OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3591.1G

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: SMALL ARMS TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

Ref: See Appendix A

1. Purpose.

a. To establish Navy policy and prescribe minimum qualification and sustainment requirements for individual small arms training and qualification per references (a) through (y). Proficiency with small arms is a core competency that supports the Navy's culture of readiness and requires properly trained and qualified individuals. This instruction serves as the foundation of marksmanship skill for each Sailor, but by no means limits the unit's ability to provide additional training and instruction.

b. This instruction is a complete revision and must be reviewed in its entirety. Policy update includes generalization of service issued pistol and rifle; alignment with updated higher headquarters policy, procedures and activity names; removal of Military Sealift Command from policy applicability; and, update to small arms marksmanship instructor training and qualification requirements.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3591.1F.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to all active and Reserve Navy personnel; all Navy law enforcement and security personnel (military, civilian and contract personnel) per references (a) and (b); Naval Special Warfare Command support personnel; and to all personnel whose duties require them to be armed. It does not apply to Naval Criminal Investigative Service personnel, Military Sealift Command civil service mariners and contract mariners or to Navy special warfare SEAL operators or special boat operators.

4. Records Management.

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy (DON) Assistant for Administration, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the OPNAV Records Management Program (DNS-16).

5. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Director, Services and Support (OPNAV N462) will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense (DoD), Secretary of the Navy and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

6. Forms.

a. DD Form 2760 Qualification to Possess Firearms or Ammunition may be obtained from the DoD Forms Program Management Web site: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/forms/>.

b. The forms in subparagraphs 6b(1) through 6b(3) may be obtained from Naval Forms Online: <https://forms.documentservices.dla.mil/order/>.

(1) OPNAV 3591/1 Small Arms Qualifications Record

(2) OPNAV 3591/2 Machine Gun Performance Record

(3) OPNAV 5512/2 Authorization to Carry Firearms



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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via DON Issuances Web site, <https://www.secnav.navy.mil/doni/default.aspx>.

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CHAPTER 1  
INTRODUCTION

1. Policy.

a. Per OPNAV M-5215-1, Navy Directives Management Program Manual, mandatory guidance is directive in nature and provides standards, measures or actions that are required and subject to inspection by higher Military Department or DoD headquarters. An inability to meet these requirements necessitates a request for a waiver or exception.

b. Recommendations, while not mandatory in nature, provide a framework that better support the mandatory guidance, but are not within the purview of this instruction to mandate.

c. Enabling procedures permit actions or measures within described parameters. These are not requirements, but are offered as possible actions or measures to take at the discretion of the responsible party.

2. Categories. Security of DoD ships, aircraft, facilities, material and safety of personnel depends, in part, upon small arms proficiency of Navy personnel.

a. Personnel Categories and Training Requirements.

(1) For purposes of this instruction, armed Navy personnel are divided into four categories, as per subparagraphs 2a(1)(a) through 2a(1)(d).

(a) Category 1. Personnel issued pistols primarily for personal protection. This category includes most officers, chief petty officers, disbursing officers, couriers and aircrews as designated by type commanders (TYCOM) who are armed while performing their duties. Personnel and units in this category are non-security personnel and units whose mission exposes them to potential hostile fire requiring them to be armed for self-defense. Category 1 personnel must qualify on the Navy Handgun Qualification Course.

(b) Category 2. Armed watch standers responsible for maintaining security of DoD assets. This category includes law enforcement, non-expeditionary security forces (to include contract security forces, rover watches, security reaction force personnel) and others as designated by TYCOMs. Category 2 personnel must qualify on all courses of fire (COF) required by this instruction as specified for the weapon(s) they are issued.

(c) Category 3. Personnel issued weapons for combat support and expeditionary operations. These personnel are attached to or in direct support of, ground combat elements. This category includes, but is not limited to, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command and Naval Special Warfare Command.

(d) Category 4. Personnel issued weapons for special missions. This category includes, but is not limited to: explosive ordnance disposal teams in support of special operations forces; convoy support personnel; F-18 aircraft squadrons attached to a Marine wing; designated marksmen; visit, board, search and seizure personnel; and nuclear weapons security for shore facilities.

(2) TYCOMs will designate personnel as one of the four categories listed in subparagraphs 2a(1)(a) through 2a(1)(d).

(3) TYCOMs will develop specific qualification and sustainment training requirements for personnel designated as category 3 or 4. However, all personnel designated as category 3 or 4 must complete an initial category 2 qualification on all applicable weapons prior to performing advanced weapons techniques. Upon successful completion of category 2 qualifications, category 3 and 4 personnel will only be required to maintain qualifications and sustainment training for TYCOM designated categories 3 and 4 courses of fire.

b. Abilities. Shooters will be required to demonstrate their ability to present the weapon, engage the target and perform remedial actions before live fire qualification. Chapter 2 provides specific marksmanship, safety and weapons familiarization training requirements.

c. Qualification Criteria.

(1) All personnel must qualify with live fire annually (every 12 months). Qualifications expire on the last day of the month in which the individual qualified. For afloat commands deployed for 90 days or longer, qualification may be extended until 3 months after returning to homeport when a range is not available.

(2) Weapons qualification criteria are contained in chapter 6. Before each qualification shoot, all personnel will receive training per chapter 2.

(3) Personnel performing annual qualifications will perform the complete live fire qualification requirement.

(4) Prior to qualification fire, it is recommended that shooters complete and successfully pass each course of fire for each weapon, using an approved simulator, where available.

d. Sustainment Training.

(1) All personnel must conduct semi-annual sustainment training to include marksmanship, safety and weapon familiarization training per chapter 2 and any additional specific weapons sustainment criteria per chapter 6. The training will not occur earlier than 120 days (4 months) and no later than 240 days (8 months) from date of last qualification.

(2) Failure to complete sustainment training disqualifies personnel from carrying the weapon until a complete requalification is conducted.

(3) Personnel may use simulators in place of live fire sustainment training.

(4) Sustainment training will be documented on OPNAV 3591/1 Small Arms Qualifications Record.

e. Clearing Barrel Procedures. Per reference (c), clearing barrel procedures are mandatory.

f. Armed Watch Standers. All armed watch standers must complete Navy Security Force Weapons (Navy Education and Training (NAVEDTRA) 43466-D) personal qualification standards (PQS) and Antiterrorism Common Core (NAVEDTRA 43387-2F) PQS to stand their assigned watch. The commanding officer (CO) determines those items that must be completed in the PQS for each qualification. The PQS is available on the My Navy Portal Web site (<https://my.navy.mil/>).

g. Weapons and Ammunition. Only government owned weapons and ammunition will be issued and used by Navy organizations conducting qualifications. Range safety officers (RSO) will ensure weapons and ammunition used in live fire is approved for use. Contractor-provided equipment and ammunition is acceptable when government-funded contracts for qualifications are executed. Contracts may include rental of ranges and weapons along with purchase of ammunition when a command does not hold weapons or have an ordnance inventory system account; and Navy Personnel Conventional Ammunition and Explosives Handling Qualification and Certification Program, per OPNAVINST 8023.24C.

h. Personnel Transfers. For personnel transfers, weapons qualifications are transferable to gaining commands. COs will accept incoming personnel's qualification status provided it is current and properly documented on an OPNAV 3591/1.

i. Student to Line Coach Ratio.

(1) During small arms training on the range, the ratio of shooters to line coaches must not be greater than 6 to 1 for shooters who have previously qualified on the same COF and with the same type weapon.

(2) For training programs involving new shooters, the ratio must not be greater than 4 to 1 for regular qualification courses.

(3) The ratio for handgun and rifle lowlight courses must not be greater than 2 to 1.

(4) The ratio for the handgun and shotgun practical weapons courses will be 1 to 1.

(5) The ratio for crew served weapons and M203 grenade launcher courses will be 1 to 1.

j. Mobile Ranges. Ranges of 25 yards or greater are not always available. Mobile ranges can be used for qualifications and sustainment when the range has been approved as safe for use by Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFACENGCOM). Appropriately scaled silhouette targets are to be used, per chapter 7.

k. Other Non-Navy Ranges. Non-Navy ranges may be used to train and qualify Navy personnel. All applicable Navy policies and regulations must be adhered to, as well as the host range policies, if more stringent.

l. Disqualifications. Neither weapons nor ammunition will be issued to any individual meeting one or more of the criteria in subparagraphs 2l(1) through (3).

(1) Personnel Screening. Any individual failing the command personnel screening, per reference (d), should not be issued firearms for watch standing and security purposes. The CO has ultimate and final authority to arm personnel under his or her command. Determination of which traits and actions are disqualifying is at the discretion of the CO.

(2) Mental Disorders and Carrying of Firearms.

(a) Mental Health Concerns. References (e), (f) and (g) provide guidance on mental health concerns which require healthcare providers' notification to commanders or prohibit deployment. Determination of whether an individual should have his or her authorization to carry a firearm temporarily or permanently revoked will be per references (e), (f) and (g).

(b) Waivers. Requests for a waiver for the removal of authorization to carry a firearm due to mental disorder must be submitted to the individual's CO using the process described in reference (f). The waiver request will be submitted to the individual's CO through the servicing military medical unit in the case of a Service member or through the individual's personnel office in the case of a civilian employee, with medical input provided by the individual's medical provider. If a Service member is found qualified for retention with no limitations on assignments or deployments following evaluation of a medical condition by competent medical and personnel authority of his or her respective Service and if the condition remains stable, a waiver for that same condition is not required.

1. Requests for waivers due to permanent or long term (36 months or longer) inability to meet a specific security requirement due to a mental disorder must be forwarded, via the chain of command, to the Navy Personnel Command Enlisted Distribution Division (PERS-40) to determine if the individual meets the requirements for a re-designation of rate.

2. In the event a waiver or exception due to mental disorder is not authorized, PERS-40 will determine whether processing for administrative discharge is appropriate, per reference (h).

(3) Convictions for Domestic Violence. Qualifying domestic violence convictions are described in DD Form 2760 Qualification to Possess Firearms or Ammunition. Screenings must be conducted annually (every 12 months) utilizing DD Form 2760 and maintained in the member's service or training record. Navy personnel have an obligation to inform their command if they have a qualifying domestic violence conviction at any other time throughout the year. If any individual has a question as to whether or not he or she has a qualifying conviction, he or she should consult with personal legal counsel.

m. Civilian Marksmanship Training. Congress has recognized and encouraged small arms training by United States citizens through the Civilian Marksmanship Program as described in reference (i). Accordingly, COs are authorized and encouraged to extend privileges of using ranges under their cognizance to recognized schools, colleges, police organizations, as well as rifle, pistol, skeet and trap clubs. Civilian use must not interfere with Navy small arms training.

(1) When such use is authorized, the installation commander responsible for the range is required to have a statement of "No Liability" or "Hold Harmless" prepared by the local legal office or staff judge advocate and executed with a responsible person of the organization requesting the range.

(2) Navy weapons or the expenditure of Navy ammunition in support of the civilian marksmanship training is not authorized. RSOs will ensure civilian guests do not introduce unauthorized weapons or ammunition to the range.

(3) Support for civilian marksmanship training extends to the military family and support for their range use is encouraged for recreational fires. Accordingly, COs are authorized and encouraged to extend privileges of using ranges under their cognizance to DoD dependents and retirees on a not to interfere scheduling basis.

n. Marksmanship Award Policy. Marksmanship award policy is delineated in chapter 8.

### 3. Responsibilities.

a. Chief of Naval Operations.

(1) Provide policy, procedural guidance and coordinating action for planning and implementing the Navy's small arms training and qualification program via OPNAV Director, Shore Readiness (OPNAV (N46)).

(2) Define small arms training and qualification requirements and establish corresponding proficiency standards based on current tactics, techniques and procedures via OPNAV (N46).

(3) Adjudicate waivers and exceptions to this policy via OPNAV (N46).

(4) Procure ammunition and weapons to support the Navy-wide small arms training and qualification program via OPNAV Surface Warfare Division (OPNAV (N96)).

(5) Ensure that reference (j) includes criteria for awarding marksmanship medals and ribbons and ensure availability (OPNAV Awards Branch (DNS-35)).

b. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

(1) Review and endorse simulators for fleet use as coordinated and assessed by Naval Warfare Center, Crane Division, Crane, IN. Laser-type simulators must be approved and certified by the Navy Laser Review Board, per reference (k).

(2) Review and endorse new fleet training initiatives as identified by TYCOMs.

c. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Fleet Commanders and Echelon 2 Commands.

(1) Review existing programs and issue implementing instructions as necessary.

(2) Per reference (l), determine and submit annual noncombat expenditure allocation (NCEA) requirements for small arms ammunition to support small arms training and competitive match programs under their cognizance.

(3) Encourage and support participation in competitive matches and exercises.

(4) Provide small arms instructors training guidance with regard to current training requirements.

d. Naval Supply Systems Command, Global Logistics Support Ammunition (NAVSUP GLS AMMO). Per reference (l), manage distribution of ammunition to appropriate users. Ammunition will be requisitioned through NAVSUP GLS AMMO once an NCEA is established.

e. Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC).

(1) Provide adequate small arms ranges maintenance and small arms ranges management personnel. Each small arms ranges standard operating procedure will address maintenance and manning requirements, to include the requirements in subparagraphs 4e(1)(a) through 4e(1)(c).

(a) Individual commands are responsible to provide their own small arms marksmanship instruction, RSOs and line coaches.

(b) Individual commands provide their own consumables, such as targets, target backings, personal protective equipment, flashlights, bullhorns, batteries and weapons cleaning equipment.

(c) CNIC provides very limited small arms range capacity to support the firing of crew served weapons and has no ranges capable of firing the .50 caliber heavy machine gun.

(2) Establish and maintain CNIC funded and operated small arms ranges within the Range Facility Management Support System. Installations will assist units in scheduling all requests to maximize utilization of CNIC ranges. Installations will collect and maintain usage and capabilities data on each CNIC operated range.

f. Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) and Center for Security Forces (CENSECFOR).

(1) Provide subject matter expertise in all small arms training curricula development efforts. Act as the principal Navy point of contact on all small arms training.

(2) Develop and approve all computer based training and other E-Learning products in support of small arms training to include shooting fundamentals, line coaching techniques, dry fire procedures guidelines, use of force and hostile intent determination decision making scenarios.

g. NAVFACENGCOM.

(1) Provide planning and design criteria and requirements for small arms ranges.

(2) Provide NAVFACENGCOM record of compliance (certification) for new ranges and recertification for significant upgrades and modifications to existing ranges that alter ventilation or down range ballistic components such as trap, baffles, overhead containment and impact berm. Navy ranges used for qualification and sustainment must have a current NAVFACENGCOM record of compliance.

(3) The record of compliance (certification) will address the need to recertify the range within a given time frame if recertification has not occurred as a result of significant upgrades and modifications.

(4) Existing ranges with NAVFACENGCOM record of compliance (certification) older than 7 years will be recertified. Ranges that are in immediate need of re-certification and ranges that are within 12 months of such need at the time this instruction is published may continue to operate as long as efforts to re-certify the range are being actively pursued through NAVFACENGCOM.

h. Commanders or COs.

(1) Implement a training program to ensure that all personnel whose primary or collateral duties require them to be armed will maintain proficiency to safely handle and effectively use the weapons assigned.

(2) Ensure that all personnel required to be armed are trained in the safe and effective use of small arms per this instruction and TYCOM training manuals.

(3) Appoint RSOs, small arms instructors and line coaches, in writing, after reviewing their qualifications per chapter 3. Line coach designation can be delegated to the command RSO.

(4) Ensure arms, ammunition and explosives screening is conducted annually, per reference (d).

(5) Determine and submit annual NCEA requirements for small arms ammunition.

(6) Issue marksmanship awards as appropriate.

(7) Approve civilian contractors qualified under this instruction to train and qualify command personnel.

(8) Commanders are encouraged to support the competitive marksmanship program, per reference (j).

(9) Per reference (m), small arms training is considered high-risk. Ensure that the operational risk management process in reference (n) is applied to small arms live fire training evolutions, to include having effective risk mitigation controls in place for the safe and effective conduct of training.

i. Personnel Duties. Small arms training and qualification personnel duties and responsibilities are delineated in chapter 3.

CHAPTER 2  
MARKSMANSHIP, SAFETY AND WEAPONS TRAINING

1. General. Marksmanship fundamentals include the safe, accurate and proficient handling of small arms weapons. The basic fundamentals exercised through proper instruction, by instructors and students, help foster a more efficient and safe training environment.

2. Policy. The marksmanship, safety and weapon familiarization training must cover the requirements in the subparagraphs 2a through 2e topics.

a. Range Safety and Orientation. Instructors must ensure all students understand the range regulations, particular safety requirements associated with each weapon, emergency action plan and specific information regarding the range facilities.

b. Knowledge of the Four Universal Safety Rules, Weapons Commands and Weapon Condition Codes for Each Weapon. See chapter 3.

c. Ability to Perform Remedial Actions. See chapter 4.

d. Drawing and Holstering the Pistol (as applicable). See reference (c).

e. Transporting and Presenting the Rifle (as applicable) (see reference (c)). Training must cover presenting the rifle from the listed transports in subparagraphs 2e(1) through 2e(4).

(1) Strong side sling arms (muzzle up).

(2) Weak side sling arms (muzzle down).

(3) Cross body sling arms (muzzle down).

(4) Tactical sling.

f. Transporting and Presenting the Shotgun (as applicable) (see reference (c)). Training must cover presenting the shotgun from the listed transports in subparagraphs 2f(1) through 2e(4).

(1) Strong side sling arms (muzzle up).

(2) Weak side sling arms (muzzle down).

(3) Cross body sling arms (muzzle down).

(4) Tactical sling (for personnel armed with shotguns with foldable stocks and tactical slings).

g. Clearing Barrel Procedures. See reference (c).

h. Marksmanship Fundamentals.

(1) For pistol qualifications:

(a) both the Weaver and Isosceles stances are permitted for all COFs (see reference (m)); and

(b) shooters will practice drawing from the holster and must demonstrate the ability to safely handle and present the weapon to the instructor before live firing.

(2) For rifle qualification, shooters will practice presenting the rifle from the various transports listed in subparagraphs 2e and 2f and demonstrate the ability to safely handle and present the weapon to the instructor before live firing.

i. Characteristics, Nomenclature and Cycle of Operation. See reference (c).

j. Assembly and Disassembly. For guidance on the assembly and disassembly, refer to the applicable maintenance requirement cards or technical or operator manual.

k. The Operation Portion of the Training. This covers function checks, filling and emptying the magazine, loading and unloading the weapon and firing the weapon (see reference (c)).

l. Malfunctions, Stoppages, Immediate, Remedial Actions. See chapter 4 and reference (c).

m. RSO or Primary Small Arms Instructor. Will ensure all personnel have emptied their pockets and they are in a sterile environment free of live fire ammunition. Personnel will practice all of the skills necessary to safely and properly operate the weapon as specified in chapter 3. Chapter 4 provides specific dry fire procedures and guidelines.

n. Use of Deadly Force. References (o) and (p) govern the use of deadly force and carrying of firearms by Navy personnel.

3. Marksmanship Training. Where available, simulator training must include marksmanship training drills to assist instructors in identifying and correcting personnel shooter fundamental errors. Courses of fire should be programmed into the simulator to provide personnel the opportunity to simulate firing the courses of fire prior to live fire operations.

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4. Computer Based Training. Completion of Navy e-Learning computer based training is recommended in conjunction with annual live fire qualification.
5. Protective Clothing. When chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear protective clothing is available (e.g., masks and gloves), students should practice remedial actions and dry fire of the weapon. If simulators are available, commands are encouraged to have personnel practice simulated firing of weapons while wearing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear clothing.
6. Live Fire Qualification Time Period. The period of time between the marksmanship, safety and weapons familiarization training and live fire qualification must not exceed 14 days. This period can be extended to 30 days for Reserve units.
7. Targets. The targets used for the various courses of fire are delineated in chapter 7.

CHAPTER 3  
SMALL ARMS TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION PERSONNEL DUTIES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES

1. General. Small arms training and qualification encompasses duties and responsibilities of personnel including, but not limited to, personnel who are trained and qualified as small arms instructors, RSOs and line coaches.
2. Policy. Small arms instructors must meet the requirements listed in subparagraphs 2a through 2j.
  - a. Be designated in writing by their CO.
  - b. Be personnel who are military rank E-5, Federal employee in the General Schedule (GS)-5 or Wage Grade (WG)-5 or above or contract instructors who have completed any of the courses listed in this chapter.
  - c. Ensure a current copy of this instruction in its entirety and the emergency action plan are available on site while conducting weapons qualifications.
  - d. Supervise line coaches and ensure the range training operation complies with established range safety rules.
  - e. Be familiar with and follow the mishap investigation and reporting procedures detailed in references (q) and (r).
  - f. Train line coaches utilizing the line coach PQS contained in Navy Security Force Weapons PQS, NAVEDTRA 43466-D.
  - g. In addition to completing one of the courses listed in subparagraph 2j, personnel must complete the associated Navy Security Force Weapons PQS, NAVEDTRA 43466-D, for small arms marksmanship instructor and the weapons they instruct and be currently qualified in each weapon.
  - h. Equivalency for Navy Instructor Training Course training will be governed by NETC directives. Prior to assuming any weapons instructor duties, small arms instructors assigned to a formal Navy schoolhouse (e.g., Recruit Training Command) or CENSECFOR must attend and successfully complete the courses listed in subparagraphs 2h(1) through 2h(3).
    - (1) Small Arms Marksmanship Instructor Course (A-041-0148).
    - (2) Crew-Served Weapons Instructor (CSWI) (A-830-2215) Course (as applicable).

(3) Navy Instructor Training Course or equivalent.

i. Submit "OPNAV 3591/1, Small Arms Qualification Record" and "OPNAV 3591/2, Machine Gun Performance Record" to their command's administrative division for input to Service member's service record.

j. The courses listed in subparagraphs 2j(1) through 2j(9) provide training for small arms and CSWI.

(1) Small Arms Marksmanship Instructor (SAMI) Course (A-041-0148). Trains personnel to instruct pistols, rifles and shotguns; trains personnel to be RSOs; and awards Navy enlisted classification (NEC) 0812.

(2) CSWI Course (A-830-2215). Trains personnel to instruct light, medium and heavy machine guns and M203 grenade launchers; trains personnel to be RSOs for crew-served weapons; and awards NEC 0814.

(3) Seahawk Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (S-050-0836). Trains personnel to instruct helicopter aerial gunners; trains personnel to be RSOs for crew-served weapons; and awards NEC 8210.

(4) Submarine Forces CSWI Course (A-041-0012). Trains personnel to instruct Mark (MK)-48 crew-served weapons and trains personnel to be RSOs for MK-48 crew-served weapons.

(5) Expeditionary Small Arms Marksmanship Instructor Course (A-060-0005). Provides Navy Expeditionary Combat Command personnel with the knowledge and skills to serve as RSO and weapons instructors for categories 2, 3 and 4 weapons qualifications, sustainment and unit level training at any DON authorized weapons range.

(6) The Marine Corps Marksmanship Instructor (Military Occupational Specialty 0931) Course.

(7) DoD-Equivalent Small Arms and CSWI Courses.

(8) The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Small Arms Instructor Course.

(9) Non-DoD. Any other small arms or CSWI course equivalencies approved by OPNAV Ashore Readiness Division (OPNAV N46) after CENSECFOR review of the course of instruction.

k. Once an approved instructor course is completed, there is no refresher instructor training requirement. Courses listed in previous versions of this instruction will remain valid if training was completed prior to issuance of this instruction.

l. Small arms instructors and CSWIs must qualify semi-annually on the courses of fire and with the type of weapons they instruct. For deployed commands with SAMIs and CSWIs whose qualifications will expire during a deployment, qualified status will remain in effect until 3 months after returning to homeport. Instructors who have not conducted small arms training within the past year must become familiar with the most current information from available resources (e.g., schools, current small arms instructors, professional resources via My Navy Portal) before conducting classroom or range training. Instructors that have not delivered weapons training within the past 12 months must complete the Navy Security Force Weapons PQS they instruct.

3. RSOs.

a. Are qualified small arms instructors who have completed one of the courses in subparagraph 1j.

b. Must complete the associated Navy Security Force Weapons PQS, NAVEDTRA 43466-D.

c. Are appointed in writing by the CO.

d. Ensure compliance with established range safety rules.

e. Must not act in the capacity of a line coach while performing the duties of the RSO, but may call out the course of fire.

f. Will ensure a current copy of this instruction and the emergency action plan in its entirety are available on site while conducting weapons qualification.

g. Must be familiar with and ensure that the mishap investigation and reporting procedures are conducted per references (q) and (r).

h. Will ensure that the range regulations, training procedures and guidelines are enforced during small arms training.

i. Will ensure OPNAV 5512/2 Authorization to Carry Firearms is completed and submitted to their CO or their designated representative for endorsement. Following endorsement, the RSO will ensure OPNAV 5512/2 is issued to the Service member. Armories or other weapons issuing sites, may use a master qualification list to verify the qualification status of assigned personnel. A separate list, updated weekly, will list those personnel who have had their weapons carry

authorization removed. Commands can either issue OPNAV 5512/2 forms or use a master qualification list to track the qualification status of assigned personnel and make this list available to Navy security force forces they are augmenting.

4. Line Coach.

a. Personnel chosen from the command who have demonstrated proper weapon(s) knowledge and proficiency; have completed the line coach PQS contained in the Navy Security Force Weapons PQS; and are qualified in the weapon(s) they coach. Line coach designation can be delegated by the CO to the RSO of the applicable command.

b. Will ensure compliance with all safety procedures and assist small arms instructors during pre-fire training and coach individual shooters on the firing line. Coaches are trained to identify shooter errors and provide the shooter with appropriate corrective actions(s).

c. Line coaches assigned to a formal Navy schoolhouse (e.g., Recruit Training Command, CENSECFOR) must attend and successfully complete SAMI (A-041-0148) and CSWI (A-830-2215) (as applicable) and Navy Instructor Training Course or equivalent, before assuming any weapons instructor duties. Equivalency for Navy Instructor Training Course training will be governed by NETC directives.

## CHAPTER 4 RANGE REGULATIONS

1. General. Range regulations are developed to ensure the safety of Navy personnel during the execution of all range operations and to maximize the life-cycle of the range and range equipment.

2. Policy. The firing range regulations of this chapter must be enforced during all small arms training. Ensure that the classroom-training environment contains no live ammunition. Never mix different types of ammunition when conducting qualifications in this instruction (i.e., live, dummy, blank or marking cartridges).

3. Universal Safety Rules. The four safety rules in subparagraphs 3a through 3d are the foundation for responsible weapons handling. These rules must be observed at all times, whether in training or in combat.

a. Rule 1: Treat every weapon as if it were loaded. This rule is intended to prevent unintentional injury to personnel or damage to property from careless handling or transferring possession of a weapon.

b. Rule 2: Never point a weapon at anything you do not intend to shoot. This rule reinforces the importance of muzzle awareness and positive identification of the target.

c. Rule 3: Keep your finger straight and off the trigger until ready to fire. This rule is intended to minimize the risk of firing the weapon negligently or prematurely. The rule also reinforces positive identification of the target.

d. Rule 4: Keep weapon on “safe” until you intend to fire. This rule reinforces the use of the weapon’s safety feature (where applicable), as well as positive identification of the target.

4. Weapons Commands. Weapons commands direct personnel to safely load, unload and employ small arms. The six commands listed in subparagraphs 4a through 4g will be used in weapons handling and on the firing range.

a. “Load”. This command is used to take a weapon from condition 4 to condition 3 (see chapter 6 for the weapon condition codes for each weapon).

b. “Make Ready”. This command is used to take a weapon from condition 3 to condition 1.

c. “Load and Make Ready”. This command is used to take a weapon from condition 4 to condition 1.

d. “Fire”. This command is used to engage targets.

- e. “Cease Fire”. This command is used to cease target engagement.
  - f. “Unload”. This command is used to take a weapon from condition 1 or condition 3, to condition 4.
  - g. “Show Clear”. This command is used to require a second individual to check the weapon to verify that no ammunition is present before the weapon is put into condition 4.
5. Range Orientation Brief. Prior to live firing the RSO will give an orientation brief on the range and discuss the items listed in subparagraphs 5a through 5i.
- a. Range safety rules (see paragraph 6).
  - b. Berms (to include a visual of the right and left lateral limits).
  - c. Downrange.
  - d. Surface danger zone.
  - e. Ready line.
  - f. Firing line.
  - g. Firing points.
  - h. Tower or point from which the RSO will call the range.
  - i. Any other pertinent topic.
6. Range Safety Rules.
- a. RSO Authority. The RSO has final authority to decide, based on safety criteria, if a shooter will participate in live fire qualification.
  - b. General Range Safety Rules.
    - (1) Upon receipt of the weapon, the chamber will be checked to ensure it is not loaded. Before loading, check weapon for cracked or worn parts. Inspect barrel for any damage, foreign debris or other obstructions. Check for dirt, excess oil, grease or other problems. Check the magazine spring for tension and the magazine in general for defects.
    - (2) Weapons must be clear before any personnel go downrange. Weapons or ammunition must not be handled or manipulated in any way if there is anyone downrange.

- (3) Never leave a firearm unattended, even for a brief period of time.

Note: Benching a cleared weapon while personnel move downrange is not considered leaving a firearm unattended.

(4) Never discharge a firearm when running. Always stop to shoot and only when certain of the target and path of the projectile. Always be aware of what is behind the target and the potential impact zone. Category 3 and category 4 courses of fire may require shooting while on the move.

(5) Never load the firearm with dented magazines, magazines with loose bullets or otherwise damaged rounds. Only approved ammunition acceptable for use on the range will be introduced.

(6) If any unsafe condition is observed, immediately call “cease fire” or repeat the “cease fire” command if initiated by another shooter. Anyone may call a cease-fire on the range.

(7) Hearing protection is required at all times when firearms are being discharged during training and qualification. All personnel exposed to gunfire in a training situation or to noise from large caliber gun or missile firing, under any circumstances, must wear sufficient hearing protective devices (single protection up to and between 140 decibel (dB) sound pressure level (SPL) peak and double protection at 165 dB SPL peak and above) to reduce the individual’s effective exposure level to below 84 dBA or 140 dB SPL. References (s) and (t) pertain.

(8) American National Standards Institute approved glasses are required. The National Stock Number (NSN) 8415-01-408-2293 meets American National Standards Institute standards.

(9) For ranges and other facilities utilizing marking cartridges or equivalent type cartridges for force on force training, never fire marking cartridges at another person unless they are wearing the proper personal protective equipment approved for Navy use.

(10) After completion of live fire training or whenever handling ammunition, shooters must wash their hands prior to eating, tobacco use or drinking in order to avoid ingestion of lead or other toxic contaminants.

c. Pistol Safety Rules.

(1) Pistols must be clear when not in use. The chamber must be empty, the safety must be engaged (if applicable) and the magazine must be removed. Additionally, benched pistols must be pointed downrange with the slide locked to the rear and holstered pistols must have the slide closed with the hammer or striker de-cocked. The weapon must be verified to ensure it is clear before benching or holstering.

(2) Do not remove pistols from the holsters until at the firing point facing the target and only when instructed to do so.

(3) Retention devices, i.e., thumb breaks and locking systems, will be used at all times during pistol courses of fire.

(4) Pistols are to be carried on and off the range in condition 4 and must be either holstered or carried via administrative transport.

d. Rifle Safety Rules.

(1) Rifles must be clear when not in use. The clear condition of a rifle is safety on, unloaded, bolt open and magazine removed. When carrying the weapon on the range, when benching it or receiving it from or handing it to another person, ensure the rifle is in a clear condition.

(2) Rifles will be carried on and off the range in a vertical or port arms position and in a clear condition.

(3) When loading a rifle, keep the weapon horizontal and pointed downrange.

(4) After unloading a rifle, while keeping the muzzle pointed downrange, visually examine the chamber and the magazine to verify the weapon is clear.

e. Shotgun Safety Rules.

(1) The clear condition of a shotgun is unloaded, action open, weapon on safe. When carrying the weapon on the range, when benching it or receiving it from or handing it to another person, make certain the shotgun is in a clear condition.

(2) When loading a shotgun, keep the weapon horizontal and pointed downrange.

(3) Shotguns will be carried on and off the range in the vertical position or port arms position, unloaded with the breach open.

(4) After unloading a shotgun, while keeping the muzzle pointed downrange, visually examine the chamber and the magazine to verify the weapon is clear.

f. Machine Gun Safety Rules.

(1) Always check barrel bore and chamber before firing.

(2) Check ammunition for oil or grease. Oil or grease on cartridges will produce excessive chamber pressure and can cause personal injury or death.

(3) Before firing, make sure barrel is locked tightly to the receiver. If the barrel is not locked, threads in receiver could be damaged or cause personal injury. For the heavy barrel machine gun (M2HB), complete head space and timing.

(4) For the machine gun tripod (M122), when extending and locking tripod legs, be sure to slide sleeve down to lowest position and latched.

(5) Always cock machine guns with palms up, with the exception of the MK-19 and MK-48 which must be cocked with palms down.

(6) Ensure that assigned and spare barrels have been head spaced and tagged to their specific receiver. Rotate usage of barrels on their assigned weapon, typically after 200 rounds have been fired.

(7) Never interchange barrel assembly or bolt assembly from one machine gun to another. Doing so may result in injury or death of personnel.

(8) If a runaway gun occurs, always keep machine gun pointed downrange. Never reload a runaway machine gun until it is repaired. Reference (u) provides specific guidance.

(9) Always use heat resistant mittens on a hot barrel. A hot barrel can cause serious burns.

(10) When removing a stuck unfired cartridge, always stay clear of the muzzle. Do not allow the round to hit any hard surface or it may discharge. Dispose of live rounds per local command policy and procedures.

(11) If a hot gun situation is encountered, refer to reference (s) for hot gun misfire procedures. Look up the specific procedures for the machine gun experiencing the problem. This publication is required to be present on the range during training.

(12) Always unload the weapon before removing from tripod, disassembling, cleaning, inspecting, transporting or storing. Always check the chambers and bores after unloading to be sure the weapon is clear.

g. Prescreening Questions. Positive response to the questions listed in subparagraphs 6g(1) through 6g(5) will result in the member being disqualified from participating in live fire.

(1) “Have you experienced any injury or incapacitating mental effects that could hamper your ability to safely operate the weapon?”

(2) “Is there any physical or other reason that could hamper your ability to safely operate the weapon?”

(3) “Have you consumed drugs, prescription or otherwise, within the last 24 hours that may impair your ability to safely operate the weapon?”

(4) “Have you consumed alcohol within the last 12 hours?”

(5) “Are you pregnant?”

h. Ready Line.

(1) The ready line is behind and parallel to the firing line. The ready line may or may not be marked on the firing range. If there is no ready line marked, the RSO will establish a ready line approximately 10 feet behind the firing line, depending on available space.

(2) Shooters and line coaches will initially be positioned behind the ready line. Shooters and line coaches will not move forward of the ready line until instructed to do so by the RSO.

(3) All spectators must remain behind the ready line during live fire sequences.

(4) In order for all safety instructions to be clearly heard and understood by all personnel, shooters will not talk while on the ready line or the firing line.

i. Firing Line.

(1) All live fire will take place at the firing line as designated in the COF.

(2) Weapons will not be handled at the firing line until specific instructions are given by the RSO to do so.

(3) No one will move downrange (forward of the firing line) unless instructed to do so by the RSO.

(a) Before any personnel move downrange, all shooters will bench or holster a clear and safe weapon and all personnel must move to the rear of the ready line. After all personnel have moved behind the ready line and the RSO has verified the firing line is safe, the RSO may allow personnel to move downrange.

(b) All personnel returning from downrange will return to the rear of the ready line. Once all personnel have returned to the ready line, the RSO will declare the firing line hot and may direct line coaches and shooters to return to their firing positions.

j. Remedial Actions.

(1) Stoppage. A stoppage is an unintentional interruption in the cycle of operation. A stoppage is normally discovered when the weapon does not fire. Proper operation, care, cleaning and lubrication of the weapon can prevent most stoppages.

(2) Immediate Action. Prompt action taken by the shooter to clear a stoppage. Procedures are detailed in reference (c).

(3) Remedial Action. Remedial action is the process of investigating the cause of the stoppage, clearing the stoppage and returning the weapon to operation. There is no one set of procedures (i.e., immediate action) that can be performed to clear all or even most stoppages that can occur. Therefore, the stoppage must be investigated and remedial action must be performed to clear it.

(4) Audible Pop or Reduced Recoil. A dangerous situation can potentially exist if the round produces a lower than normal audible pop or lower than normal recoil. This condition can also be accompanied by smoke escaping from the chamber area. An audible pop occurs when only a portion of the propellant is ignited and could result in the projectile obstructing the bore. If this situation occurs, the slide and hammer or bolt is in the forward position. When audible pop or reduced recoil is experienced, under no circumstances is immediate action performed. If the chamber is reloaded and the weapon is fired again, serious injury to the shooter or surrounding personnel can occur. Whenever unsure, always wait a minimum of 3 seconds, unload and clear the weapon and inspect the bore to ensure it is not obstructed. For the MK19, always wait a minimum of 10 seconds and for the M203, always wait a minimum of 30 seconds. While performing immediate action, always keep the muzzle of the weapon pointed directly downrange.

(5) Remedial Action Policy.

(a) All shooters must perform their own immediate or remedial actions unless there is a possibility of a bore obstruction or unless directed otherwise by the RSO.

(b) For the Navy Handgun Qualification Course, Handgun Lowlight Course and Rifle Lowlight Course, all remedial actions will be performed after the sequence of fire is complete unless it cannot be cleared. If that is the case, the shooter will raise the non-firing hand and the line coach will take over. Rounds resulting from a shooter-induced stoppage are saved rounds and are lost. Rounds resulting from an ammunition or weapon-induced stoppage are alibi rounds. Shooters will be afforded the opportunity to fire alibi rounds before the next sequence of fire begins.

(c) For the Navy Handgun Practical Weapons Course, Shotgun Practical Weapons Course, Machine Gun Qualification Course Bipod, Machine Gun Qualification Course and

Tripod, traversing and elevation mechanism, if a stoppage occurs, the shooter must perform his or her own remedial actions during the course of fire, but under the close supervision of the line coach. Shooters will be allowed to recover from shooter-induced stoppages during the course of fire as long as the appropriate remedial action was taken. If the shooter does not finish the sequence in the allotted time, the RSO will determine the number of saved rounds and alibi rounds and provide adequate time to fire any remaining alibi rounds.

(d) RSOs are responsible for all aspects of range safety. If the RSO determines a shooter is incapable of performing remedial actions, that shooter will be referred for remedial training. Upon completion of the additional training, the RSO may allow the shooter to conduct live fire during a subsequent firing relay.

(6) Remedial action procedures for each weapon are listed in reference (c).

(7) In the case of an audible pop or reduced recoil incident, the shooter will attempt to place the weapon on "safe," remove their finger from inside the trigger guard, raise their non-firing hand, keep the weapon pointed safely downrange and wait for assistance from the line coach. The weapon will be unloaded, verified clear, disassembled and inspected for a bore obstruction. If there is no bore obstruction, the weapon may continue to be used. If a bore obstruction is present, the weapon will be taken out of service and handled according to the procedures outlined in reference (c).

k. Range Operations.

(1) All firing sequences and range commands must be given by the RSO or an instructor under the close supervision of the RSO.

(2) Shooters must listen carefully and follow instructions and commands given by the RSO.

(3) If a shooter does not understand any instruction or command given by the RSO, that student should immediately raise his or her non-firing hand while removing their finger from the trigger guard and will keep the weapon pointed safely downrange. Ensure safety is on. During low light operations when a hand signal cannot be seen, the student will loudly shout "training time out." The information will be repeated or clarified by a line coach.

(4) The RSO is ultimately in charge of range operations and safety. All decisions by the RSO are final regarding the removal of trainee(s) from training or qualification if range safety is violated.

l. Range Safety Violations. Shooters must adhere to all RSO commands. Shooters will be removed from the firing line for any violation listed in subparagraphs 6l(1) through 6l(8). RSO

will determine if the shooter can continue the course of fire sequence or whether he or she should be removed permanently from the sequence.

- (1) Not keeping the muzzle of the firearm pointed downrange.
- (2) Safety not engaged when instructed to do so.
- (3) Finger inside the trigger guard except when sights and muzzle are on the target.
- (4) Shooting at anything other than the intended target.
- (5) Failure to immediately respond to RSO commands.
- (6) Failure to follow RSO or line coach instructions.
- (7) Firing after the "cease fire" signal has been given.
- (8) Inability to perform remedial actions as determined by the RSO.

m. Medical Personnel. During live fire range operations, qualified medical personnel, such as a hospital corpsman (or other Service equivalent), paramedic, emergency medical technician, nurse or doctor must be present at the range. Medical personnel must ensure appropriate medical supplies are present to manage, at a minimum, basic airway, breathing and circulation problems resulting from traumatic and non-traumatic events. Medical personnel will not participate in the live fire shoot while they are on medical duty. Medical personnel do not have to be present if emergency medical services are available on the base or host facility, are able to respond within 10 minutes and there is a regulation or standard operating procedure in place providing for emergency services and transportation. Prior to all live fire events, the RSO will notify medical personnel of the event.

n. Emergency Action Plan. Before any live fire operations can take place, an emergency action plan must be established and coordinated with any host command. This plan must include, at a minimum:

- (1) primary and alternate means of communication (location of telephones, telephone numbers, radios, radio channels or call signs (if used) of emergency medical services, fire department, police or security and other emergency response teams as required by the firing range);
- (2) identification and location of emergency devices, such as first aid kits and other equipment determined by the location of the firing range;
- (3) notification lists of personnel and the appropriate chains of command;

(4) muster sites and evacuation routes for non-affected students, line coaches and instructors;

(5) entry routes for emergency services vehicles and personnel;

(6) locations of nearest landing zone; and

(7) dedicated evacuation vehicle on standby and emergency evacuation route, unless the base or host facility provides emergency transportation services and there is a regulation or standard operating procedure in place for such services.

o. Training Time Out.

(1) A training time out may be called by anyone in any training situation where they are concerned for their own or another's safety or they request clarification of procedures or requirements. A training time out is also an appropriate means for a person to obtain relief if he or she is experiencing pain, heat stress or other serious physical discomfort. The purpose of the training time out is to correct the situation of concern, provide clarifying information or remove the individual from the possible hazardous environment. A training time out may be signaled by verbally shouting "training time out" or "cease fire," or by non-verbally raising the non-firing hand straight up from the shoulder, while keeping the weapon pointed safely downrange. If a training time out is signaled, all personnel who hear the command will repeat it until the RSO has acknowledged the command. (Note: In lowlight situations use the verbal commands.) If the training time out is not acknowledged, the signaler will continue to shout the verbal commands again until acknowledged. If an adequate number of line coaches are available to allow training to continue safely, the RSO may elect to have the line coach attempt to relieve and remove the individual from the possible hazardous environment. However, if this is not practical, training will be stopped until the situation is corrected.

(2) In those cases where an individual refuses to participate in training after a training time out instruction has been given, he or she will be removed from the training site and referred to member's chain of command. No disciplinary action can result from calling a training time out.

7. Range Operations. No contents of this instruction will prevent local range regulations or standard operating procedures from requiring more stringent range safety criteria than contained herein.

CHAPTER 5  
SMALL ARMS DRY FIRE TRAINING PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

1. General. Training is a process for both mind and body and is the time spent perfecting elements of a technique. Training can consist of one element of a technique followed by combining the elements of a technique until the technique can be performed correctly and smoothly. Initially, rapid completion of techniques is not the goal. As a technique is repetitiously practiced and improved until it can be performed correctly, the speed with which the technique is accomplished can be increased.
2. Policy. The ability to perform a psychomotor skill instinctively and reflexively requires continuous training and repetitions to “program” the skill into the subconscious. As this concept relates to shooting, the goal is to have armed personnel, trainees and students practice techniques until they have achieved the goal of being able to perform the same thing, the same way, every single time without requiring conscious thought. It should be quick, smooth and accurate. Once this level has been achieved, it is important to continue to practice those skills as often as possible so that they are not diminished. Small arms skill is perishable and will be lost in a short amount of time without regular training.
  - a. The RSO or primary small arms instructor will ensure all trainees have emptied their pockets to verify that there are no live rounds present on their person. Once the training area has been established and is deemed safe, dry fire training can be conducted.
  - b. Dry fire is defined as training in a sterile training environment free of live ammunition, establishing a shooting stance and squeezing the trigger without actually firing live ammunition. The benefits of conducting well-coached repetitious dry fire training cannot be overstated. The shooter will eventually be able to detect fundamental errors through their own dry fire training. Dry fire must be conducted during training to provide students time to practice marksmanship skills. Small arms instructors will observe and assess shooters’ conduct of all demonstration requirements. Since the date of training and the date of live fire are authorized to take place over a 14-day period, shooters must dry fire the specific COF they are going to conduct on the day of live fire. Small arms instructors must verify all weapons used for dry fire are clear and safe and that the designated training area is free of all live ammunition.
  - c. The seven fundamentals of shooting (grip, stance, sight alignment, sight picture, trigger control, breathing and follow-through) can all be evaluated and reinforced during dry fire training.
    - (1) Grip: provides control and proper sight alignment.
    - (2) Stance: provides stability, mobility and balance.

(3) Sight Alignment: the relationship between the front and rear sight with respect to the shooter's eye. As the sights are a physical reference to the direction a discharged bullet will travel, proper sight alignment is an important concept to accurate shooting.

(4) Sight Picture: the relationship of the sights to the target and identifies the specific point on the target to which a shooter aims. It is important to understand that a perfectly still sight picture is impossible to obtain.

(5) Trigger Control: the deliberate act of pressing the trigger and breaking the shot without inducing additional movement to the sight picture.

(6) Breathing: can cause additional movement in the sight picture. While it is important to keep breathing as performance can degrade as the body becomes oxygen deprived, it can be controlled to minimize the effect on sight picture movement.

(7) Follow Through: maintaining sight alignment until the bullet is discharged and exits the barrel.

d. Dry fire training is most effective when the repetitions of any particular shooting skill are performed at least five times dry for every live fire repetition. The more frequently dry fire is conducted, the more students will become proficient with handling their assigned weapon. The end result will be students that qualify much quicker during live fire with scores that will continue to improve with the frequency of training, which further promotes mission effectiveness.

e. Care should be exercised to ensure students are not bored or fatigued with the drills which may result in loss of attention and become counterproductive.

f. When conducting dry fire training iterations, use the demonstration-performance teaching method where an instructor demonstrates a technique and then the students perform that technique.

### 3. Rules for the Conduct of Dry Fire Training.

a. Dry fire must be conducted during training to provide students time to practice marksmanship skills. Small arms instructors will observe and assess shooter conduct of all demonstration requirements. Since the date of training and the date of live fire are authorized to take place over a 14-day period, shooters must dry fire the specific COF they are going to conduct on the day of live fire. Small arms instructors must verify all weapons used for dry fire are clear and safe and that the designated training area is free of all live ammunition.

b. Training boundaries must be established. Trainers must point out what direction is considered downrange in the training environment for the students and for instructor demonstrations.

c. Dummy (inert) ammunition can be used to teach students how to load, unload and clear stoppages. Inert training rounds must be identifiable as inert and look distinctly different from live ammunition (no primer, hole drilled through casing, propellant removed, orange, etc.). Ensure that if inert rounds are approved they are correctly requisitioned through proper channels. All inert ordnance will be inventoried and accounted for before, during and after the training and will be properly stored.

d. Dry fire should be conducted in full training gear. If a holster will be used during live fire to present the pistol and more importantly while on duty, then a holster should be used during dry fire. It is important to practice with the same equipment to simulate a realistic environment and to get the shooter used to employing and presenting the weapon system using the duty gear the personnel will fight in. Sling presentation for rifle and shotgun drills must be incorporated into the training. The sling can also be used to stabilize the firing platform while firing a rifle.

e. Use scaled down silhouette targets that represent the targets that will be used during live fire. This will serve two purposes, listed in subparagraphs 3e(1) and 3e(2).

(1) Training with a scaled down target representation will have a positive psychological effect when shooters go to the range and fire at a much larger target. Training with a scaled down target will increase the difficulty and better prepares students for live fire on full size targets. Additionally, scaled down targets increase the flexibility of dry fire training as shorter distances can be used when training is conducted away from a live fire range.

(2) When dry firing a weapon, the trigger is squeezed and the hammer goes forward. The sights should remain still if the proper fundamentals of shooting are applied. Errors in executing the shooting fundamentals are more readily apparent as movement in the sight picture is more dramatic on the reduced aiming areas of scaled down targets.

f. Dry fire training can be performed practically anywhere. Examples of suitable locations include a classroom, a gym set up like a mock range, a grass field or a range prior to live fire. Scaled target representations can also be placed on walls, room dividers, cardboard, etc. Establish the training site where a safe and sterile training environment is ensured. Trainings should be set-up where the environment will be conducive to training (adequate ventilation, out of extreme elements, such as heat and cold, etc.).

g. Dry fire student-to-instructor ratios are not the same as live fire. However, smaller ratios will ensure a better training environment. It is imperative that trainers are fully versed on the fundamentals of shooting, coaching and how to correct shooter fundamental errors.

h. Peer coaching is another option where students are broken into relays and one student becomes the shooter, while the other becomes a coach. In this situation both students will learn from each other. Trainers should ensure they monitor peer coaching closely to ensure corrections are being made and that both students receive adequate time to dry fire.

i. Trainers must understand the abilities and proficiency level of students. Experience levels will vary and a trainer should always conduct training from the lowest level. The trainer will need to break down some of the techniques into steps and slowly work the students up to the point to where they can perform the entire technique as one step.

j. During dry fire, an instructor will be assigned as the primary instructor who will initiate range commands with a whistle to signal the start and stop of a simulated shooting sequence. This enables instructors to focus on ensuring students respond appropriately to the commence fire and cease-fire signals prior to live fire training.

#### 4. Dry Fire Training Solutions.

a. Dry fire training should be relevant to the skills that must be performed in live fire. For example, if the students will fire the pistol qualification course after dry fire, the dry fire training should address and reinforce the procedures and skills they must be able to perform to successfully qualify on the course.

b. If students will be required to shoot from a standardized shooting stance; present the pistol from the holster; unload and reload; or fire double and single action, then they must have the opportunity to practice all of those skills in the order listed in subparagraphs 4b(1) through 4b(8).

(1) Stance

(2) Grip

(3) Draw and sweep safety

(4) Properly aim weapon (sight alignment and sight picture)

(5) Breath control

(6) Squeeze trigger and apply proper follow through

(7) Transition to weak hand supported firing position

(8) Unload and reload

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c. To practice firing single action, the trainer can instruct the student coach to manually thumb the hammer to the rear after the shooter has squeezed the trigger in the double action mode and the hammer has fallen. In addition, the student coach can simulate recoil to ensure the shooter is employing good follow through and focusing on the front sight through the simulated recoil of the weapon. The student coach can do this by waiting until after the hammer falls and simply tapping upward under the magazine well to simulate recoil. They can watch the shooter's dominant eye to ensure it follows the movement of the front sight through the recoil.

d. Each student should practice each technique five to ten times or until they are comfortable with the technique. During this initial phase no time limits should be placed on students as the focus is on the ability of the student to perform the technique properly, smoothly and repetitiously.

e. Once the students are performing the techniques smoothly and technically correct, start adding time limits to the drills. The lead instructor should give commands exactly like those that will be heard on a range and should use an audible system or resource (e.g., whistle) to signal commence and cease-fire. Examples of drills are included in subparagraphs 4e(1) through 4e(3).

(1) Draw, Sweep Safety, Dry Fire (Holster Drills) One Time (Double Action). Upon the command to draw the weapon, provide 5 seconds (start slow and, as students progress, reduce the time limit – never faster than 2.5 seconds for this drill). A good rule of thumb is that it should take 1 second to draw and line the sights up and 1.25 seconds to squeeze the trigger once the students have mastered the drill.

(2) Transition to Weak Hand Supported. During this drill, emphasis must be placed on removing the finger from the trigger during the hand transition. To perform these drills, have the student draw the pistol, disengage the safety, thumb the hammer to the rear and aim in. On command, have the students switch from the strong hand supported firing position to the weak hand supported firing position and dry fire one time (single action). Begin with no time limit, give 5 seconds and end with 2.5 seconds for this drill.

(3) Unload and Reload. This is one of the lengthier drills as it will take students some time to master this skill. Have students insert an empty magazine into the pistol, pull the slide to the rear, disengage the safety and aim in. On command, have the students release the magazine, insert a new magazine, release the slide and dry fire one time (single action). This skill should be taught initially with no time limit, in 10 seconds and slowly reducing time to 5 seconds.

f. The techniques listed in subparagraph 4e lay out examples of dry fire training that can be conducted for the pistol qualification course. Similar procedures can be used for all weapons and courses. For practical weapons courses, it is a good idea to use some sort of barricade that will simulate what will be used on the range and help to emphasize the importance of using cover and concealment.

5. Clearing Stoppages.

a. Stoppages are defined as an unintentional interruption in the cycle of operation that prevents the weapon from firing. During live fire operations, stoppages never occur frequently enough to provide the number of repetitions required for a student to adequately learn this skill. In addition, dummy (inert) ammunition and live ammunition will never be mixed, as this can create an unsafe situation.

b. Dry fire using dummy (inert) ammunition is the perfect setting to provide the repetitious training necessary for the student to learn how to perform remedial action.

c. Small arms instructors can simulate stoppages, such as failure to feed, stovepipe, double feed and magazine not seated using dry fire drills, where the instructors create a weapon stoppage using dummy (inert) ammunition and then walk the students through clearing the stoppages, until they are ready to perform the entire procedure on their own. At this time, the student observer can assist, create stoppages and allow the students to repetitiously practice clearing the stoppage and dry fire one time, simulating getting back into the engagement.

6. Safety During Dry Fire Training. Dry fire training provides the opportunity to identify and correct safety violations before conducting live fire evolutions. Subparagraphs 6a through 6c contain a list of the most common violations that need to be immediately identified and corrected.

a. Trigger Control. Placing finger on trigger too soon or failure to remove the finger from the trigger guard. Instructors must ensure that students do not place their finger on the trigger until the sights and muzzle are on target.

b. Weapon Safety. Taking safety off too soon or failure to de-cock and engage the safety. Instructors must ensure the safety is not swept until the muzzle of the weapon is pointed directly at the target while going out to the point of aim in preparation to fire.

c. Firing After the Cease-fire Signal. Trigger discipline is of the utmost importance. It not only signals the end of a sequence, but could signal something unsafe. In addition, in a tactical situation, personnel must have the discipline to stop trigger squeeze if an innocent bystander walks into the line of fire or if the situation changes.

7. Additional Training Aids and Dry Fire Drills.

a. My Navy Portal, professional resources has numerous folders filled with tools, pictures of mock ranges and dry fire, reference materials and training methodologies that can be useful.

b. References (c), (n) and (v) through (y) provide useful information and guidance.

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c. CENSECFOR computer based trainings are located on My Navy Portal, Professional Resources. Students should go through this training, as it will provide a lot of the prerequisite skills they need. Small arms trainers should attain sets of the weapons handling courseware to be used during training evolutions. The trainer can use the courseware to demonstrate a technique, pause the courseware and conduct practice drills with the students. Remember the key to success is to do the same thing, the same way, every time. To do this, trainers must all teach standardized weapons handling procedures as laid out in the weapons handling courseware and reference (c).

d. CENSECFOR can direct and provide tools, courseware, ideas and direction on effective dry fire and line coaching techniques.

e. Small arms weapon simulators are available throughout the Navy and are controlled by individual TYCOMs and other commands both ashore and afloat. The small arms weapon simulators provide exceptional ability to train new shooters and those requiring remediation in order to build familiarity, confidence and skill in small arms marksmanship. Small arms weapon simulators also provide the ability to train on hostile intent determination interactive shooting and do not shoot-deadly force judgment training.

CHAPTER 6  
QUALIFICATIONS CRITERIA

1. General. Weapons qualification criteria impart a baseline level of weapons proficiency and qualification for Navy personnel to train to, with the goal of surpassing or exceeding, those standards.

2. Policy. The chapter provides the minimum small arms qualification criteria for Navy personnel assigned to perform armed duties.

3. Qualification Criteria for Pistols.

a. Qualification. All Navy personnel armed with a pistol are required to qualify on the Navy Handgun Qualification Course. Category 2 personnel are additionally required to qualify on the handgun practical weapons course (HPWC) and Handgun Lowlight Course annually.

b. Safety. Due to safety concerns, there are no requirements to fire the HPWC or Handgun Lowlight Course while at sea. For deployed commands, qualification and sustainment may be extended until 3 months after return to homeport when a range or simulator is not available. However, COs may conduct these courses of fire underway at their discretion. Ensure the classroom-training environment contains no live ammunition. Never mix different types of ammunition when conducting qualifications in this instruction (i.e., live, dummy, blank or marking cartridges).

c. Training. Before each qualification shoot, all personnel will receive training per chapter 2.

d. Sustainment Criteria. In addition to the training delineated in chapter 2, the semi-annual sustainment training must include either in subparagraph 3d(1) or subparagraph 3d(2).

(1) Live Fire. The Navy Handgun Qualification Course for all categories of personnel respectively, using the sustainment scoring criteria (75 percent hits in scoring area of target silhouette).

(2) Simulator Fire. Simulated Navy Handgun Qualification Course for all categories of personnel respectively using the scoring criteria (75 percent hits in the scoring area of the target silhouette). Additional proficiency training in simulated moving targets, shoot or do not-shoot drills, simulated combat engagements or marksmanship training aids are also highly encouraged.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Filled magazine inserted, round in chamber, slide forward and safety on SAFE (M9 and M18) - hammer forward (M11).
Condition 2	Not applicable.
Condition 3	Filled magazine inserted, no round in chamber, slide forward and safety on SAFE (M9 and M18) - hammer forward (M11).
Condition 4	No magazine inserted, no round in chamber, slide forward and safety on SAFE (M9 and M18) - hammer forward (M11).

Exhibit 6-1. Weapons Conditions for Pistols

- e. Stoppage, Immediate and Remedial Actions. See chapter 5 and references (c) and (u).
- f. Ammunition.

(1) Only ammunition issued through the Navy Stock System by the NAVSUP GLS AMMO will be used. Prior to the use of any type of ammunition, an NCEA must be established for the requesting unit.

(2) Standard issue 9 millimeter (9mm) ball ammunition will be used for qualification on the Navy handgun courses of fire. In situations where physical limitations due to range construction, design or environmental concerns preclude the use of standard ball ammunition, non-toxic frangible ammunition may be used.

- g. Navy Handgun Qualification Course.

(1) Description. The Navy Handgun Qualification Course is designed to be fired on a 15-yard range using the transition target II or B-21 target. If a 10-yard mobile range is used, the transition target I is used in place of the transition target II or B-21 target for the 15-yard sequences. The course is to be fired until achieving a qualifying score, not to exceed two consecutive times. If remediation is determined by the SAMI to be effective, an additional attempt to qualify is authorized; however, if multiple fundamental and presentation issues exist, then all dry fire and simulator fire training must be repeated prior to attempting qualification again. When using ranges with overhead baffling, it is permissible to move the targets downrange maintaining a fixed firing line beneath the baffling. All shots are to be fired at center mass of the target. The initial shot for each sequence of fire will be fired double action, with all subsequent shots fired single action until the pistol is de-cocked as described in the COF (M9 and M11). Personnel must first qualify on the Navy Handgun Qualification Course, within the periodicity requirements, prior to firing the Handgun Lowlight Course or the HPWC. The Navy Handgun Qualification Course is the foundation course for this weapon and provides the necessary requisite marksmanship skills. Shooters will start from the interview stance. Shooters' time will commence when the command to fire is given by the RSO. Those personnel who do not qualify on their second attempt will be carefully evaluated to determine if remedial training will correct their deficiencies.

(2) Course of Fire.

(a) Three-Yard Line. Twelve rounds, standing position.

1. On command of the RSO to load and make ready, the shooter inserts a six-round magazine into the pistol, makes a condition 1 weapon, covers the rear of the slide with firing thumb and holsters the weapon. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws the weapon, fires two rounds in 4 seconds and continues to cover the target. On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from trigger, engages the de-cocking or safety lever (M9) or de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holsters the weapon.

2. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws and fires two more rounds in 4 seconds and continues to cover the target. On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from the trigger, engages the de-cocking or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holsters the weapon.

3. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws the weapon, fires two rounds, immediately releases the empty magazine (dropping to the deck), inserts a magazine of six rounds, releases the slide forward, fires two more rounds, then covers the target. Time limit is 10 seconds for this sequence. On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from the trigger, engages the de-cocking or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb and holsters the weapon.

4. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws and fires the four remaining rounds in 8 seconds. The first two rounds are fired from the strong hand supported position and the last two rounds are fired from the weak hand supported position (two-handed, with the strong hand supporting the weak hand). Shooters must keep the weapon pointed downrange at all times while switching hands. The shooter then covers the target until instructed by the RSO to remove finger from the trigger, unload and show clear. After the weapon has been verified clear by the shooter and line coach, the RSO will direct the shooters to release the slide, verify the weapon safety is on SAFE (M9 and M18) or de-cock (M11); cover the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holder.

(b) Seven-Yard Line. Twelve rounds, standing position, same sequences as the 3-yard line.

(c) Fifteen-Yard Line. Twenty-four rounds, standing and kneeling positions.

1. On command of the RSO to load and make ready, the shooter inserts a magazine of 12 rounds into the pistol, makes a condition 1 weapon, covers the rear of the slide

with the firing thumb and holsters the weapon. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws the weapon, fires two rounds in 4 seconds and continues to cover the target.

On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from the trigger, engages the de-cocking or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holsters the weapon.

2. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws and fires two more rounds in 4 seconds and continues to cover the target. On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from the trigger; engages the de-cocking or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holsters the weapon.

3. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws and fires four rounds in 8 seconds and continues to cover the target. On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from the trigger, engages the de-cocking or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holsters the weapon.

4. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter draws and fires four rounds, immediately releases the empty magazine, (dropping to the deck), inserts a magazine of 12 rounds, releases the slide forward, fires four more rounds in 20 seconds and continues to cover the target. On command of the RSO to de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) and holster, the shooter removes finger from the trigger, engages the de-cocking / safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holsters the weapon.

5. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter first assumes a kneeling position and then draws, fires eight rounds in 20 seconds and continues to cover the target. The shooter then covers the target until instructed by the RSO to remove finger from the trigger, unload and show clear. After the weapon has been verified clear by the shooter and line coach, the RSO will direct the shooters to release the slide, verify the weapon safety is on SAFE (M9 and M18) or de-cock (M11); cover the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holster.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
3	12	Draw and fire 2 rounds in 4 seconds Draw and fire 2 rounds in 4 seconds Draw and fire 2 rounds, reload 6 rounds and fire 2 rounds in 10 seconds Draw and fire 4 rounds in 8 seconds	Strong hand supported “ “ “ “ “ “ 2 rounds strong hand, 2 rounds weak hand supported
7	12	Draw and fire 2 rounds in 4 seconds Draw and fire 2 rounds in 4 seconds Draw and fire 2 rounds, reload 6 rounds and fire 2 rounds in 10 seconds Draw and fire 4 rounds in 8 seconds	Strong hand supported “ “ “ “ “ “ 2 rounds strong hand, 2 rounds weak hand supported
15	24	Draw and fire 2 rounds in 4 seconds Draw and fire 2 rounds in 4 seconds Draw and fire 4 rounds in 8 seconds Draw and fire 4 rounds, reload 12 rounds and fire 4 rounds in 20 seconds Draw and fire 8 rounds in 20 seconds	Strong hand supported “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Kneeling

Exhibit 6-2. Summary Table – Navy Handgun Qualification Course

h. Scoring for the Navy Handgun Qualification Course. For scoring, use “K” values on the B-21 target or the regular printed values on the transition targets two. If the grease mark of the bullet (not the tear caused by the bullet) is located in the scoring areas of the target or touches the outside of a higher scoring ring, the higher value will be counted. Marksmanship awards, qualification and record entries will be based on this criteria:

Possible Score	240
Expert	228 - 240
Sharpshooter	204 - 227
Marksman	180 - 203
Minimum Qualifying Score	180
Unqualified Sustainment Score	Less than 180 36 hits in scoring area (silhouette) of target

i. Handgun Lowlight Course.

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(1) Description. Most Navy security department firearms training takes place on an outdoor range, during daylight hours and under optimal weather conditions. Security forces also operate under less-than-optimal weather conditions and in diminished light or darkness. To familiarize security personnel with the inherent handicaps of low visibility fire and the necessary compensations, the Handgun Lowlight Course described in subparagraphs 2a(9)(a) through 2a(9)(e) will be fired annually. This COF is designed to be fired on a regulation range using vehicle headlights or other improvised lighting, not to exceed that provided by vehicle headlights, for those sequences where diminished light is required. The amount of light is comparable to natural light 30 minutes past official sunset. Utilizing personally worn light darkening equipment (i.e., goggles) does not satisfy the low light visibility requirement and the use of lowlight goggles to simulate low-light conditions is not authorized. The same COF may be used for those specially equipped low-light indoor ranges, without modification. If no 15-yard range is available, a mobile range of 10 yards may be used and the last sequence is fired at 10 yards instead of 15 yards. The "E" silhouette target is recommended for this COF, but the B-21 or transition target II may also be used. The course is to be fired until achieving a qualifying score, not to exceed two consecutive times. Each firing sequence starts with a loaded weapon held at the alert carry and pointed downrange. Shooters' time will commence when the command to fire is given by the RSO. Those personnel who do not qualify on their second attempt will be carefully evaluated to determine if remedial training will correct their deficiencies.

(2) Flashlight Technique. The applicable flashlight technique will be used while the shooter is in the Weaver or Isosceles firing stance. The light should be used judiciously and only for target identification immediately prior to firing. After firing, the light should be extinguished immediately. Practice is necessary to coordinate the light and bullet placement.

(3) Special Instructions for the Handgun Lowlight Course. Shooters must be able to load, unload and clear the weapon by feel during this COF.

(4) Course of Fire. On command of the RSO to load and make ready, the shooters make a condition 1 weapon. Each firing sequence starts with a loaded weapon held at the alert carry and pointed downrange. Each firing sequence starts with a condition 1 weapon. The de-cocking, or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18) will be engaged after each firing sequence.

(a) Three-Yard Line. Six rounds, two rounds per 3 seconds. This COF is performed in just enough light to distinguish the target. The de-cocking safety, or lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18) will be engaged after each firing sequence.

(b) Seven-Yard Line. Six rounds, two rounds per 3 seconds, same sequence as subparagraph 3i(4)(a) using a flashlight versus minimal ambient light. The shooter holds the flashlight in the weak (non-shooting) hand. On command to fire, the shooter will illuminate the target while holding the flashlight in the Ayoob position as described in subparagraph 2a(9)(a).

Upon completion of each sequence of fire, the shooter will immediately turn the flashlight off and apply the de-cocking, or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18).

(c) Fifteen-Yard Line. Six rounds, two rounds per 3 seconds, target illumination by vehicle headlights or other improvised lighting. The de-cocking, or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18) will be engaged after each firing sequence. Upon completion, a cease-fire whistle (or other audible means) is blown. On command, the line coach verifies a clear weapon. The weapon is then benched or holstered, whichever option is selected by the RSO.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
3	6	From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds	Minimal ambient light
7	6	From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds	Flashlight
15	6	From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds From alert carry, 2 rounds in 3 seconds	Vehicle or improvised light

Exhibit 6-3. Summary Table – Handgun Lowlight Course

(5) Scoring for Handgun Lowlight Course. Scoring is completed by counting the number of hits within the silhouette of the target. A failure to qualify requires remedial dry fire training with a qualified line coach. Qualification will be based on this criteria:

Possible Score	18
Minimum Qualifying Score	12

j. HPWC.

(1) Purpose. The purpose of the HPWC is to experience and test the ability to effectively engage targets in less than ideal, static conditions. The RSO should choose an activity relative to the shooter's physical condition to elevate the heart rate of the shooter directly prior to commencing the HPWC. Great care should be taken to not exhaust personnel to the point of being unsafe during the COF. Running in place for 2 minutes with weapon holstered and restrained is suggested. The shooter-to-coach ratio is one-to-one. This COF is intended to be conducted for only one shooter at a time. However, an approved range with two or more physically separated lanes of fire may accommodate running two or more shooters at the same time.

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(2) Description. The course consists of 18 rounds fired with the pistol in 3 minutes. Three targets are used to exercise the shooter's ability to engage multiple targets. Targets are numbered one, two and three from left to right. The "E" silhouette target is recommended for this COF, but the B-21 or transition target II may also be used. For afloat ranges the transition target I will be used at the 15-yard line for the 25-yard sequence of fire. The shooter will advance from the ready line, which is behind the 25-yard line (15-yard line for afloat ranges). The line coach follows the shooter through the different firing stations, staying on the shooter's strong side, never moving in front of the muzzle of the weapon and carefully monitoring the shooter for safety infractions and incorrect procedures. The first round for each sequence will be fired double action (M9 and M11). Upon completion of firing from each station, the shooter will continue to keep their finger on the trigger with the safety on FIRE (M9 and M18) and briefly scan the threat area. The threat area is defined as the multiple target area for the particular station. Scanning should not exceed past these boundaries due to safety considerations. The shooter will then de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) the weapon and move to the next station with the shooter's hand on the pistol. Line coaches must ensure that shooters draw their weapons only when they have completely stopped at the firing position and are facing the targets. When using indoor or ranges with overhead baffling, it is permissible to have the shooter move laterally down the normal firing line, engaging targets set at specified distances so that the shooter remains beneath the overhead baffling. Most ranges accommodate only one shooter at a time running this course. Any attempt to run multiple shooters at the same time should be carefully evaluated using operational risk management best practices. The COF is to be fired until achieving a minimum of 12 hits on at least one COF, not to exceed 2 consecutive attempts.

(3) Target Engagement. Engagement of multiple targets by multiple rounds must be in a manner that is tactically correct and consistent with proper use of cover and concealment. The right-handed shooter coming out from cover on the right side will see (and will engage) target 3 first. The shooter would continue a four-round sequence by engaging targets 2, then 1 and 3 again. The left-handed shooter will engage target 1 first from a barricaded position.

(4) Firing Stations. The SAMI course includes specific explanations of each firing station.

(a) Station One. Twenty-five yards, two rounds, two targets, "tall barricade," standing engage targets 3, 2; for left-handed shooters engage targets 1, 2; 15 yards with transition target 1 on afloat ranges, shooters engage target 1.

(b) Station Two. Twenty yards, four rounds, three targets, "low barricade," prone, engage targets in 3-2-1-1 order (left-handed shooters 1-2-3-3 order).

(c) Station Three. Fifteen yards, four rounds, three targets, "standing window," standing, engage targets in 3-2-1-2 order (left-handed shooters 1-2-3-2 order).

(d) Station Four. Ten yards, four rounds, three targets, “short barricade,” kneeling, engage targets in 3-2-1-3 order (left-handed shooters 1-2-3-1 order).

(e) Station Five. Seven yards, four rounds, “no barricade,” standing, engage targets in 3-2-1-1 order (left-handed shooters 1-2-3-3 order).

(5) Barricades. Barricades on the practical weapons course should be as simple as possible to simulate objects that might be used as cover during a confrontation. The barricades should be arranged so that there is no shooting over or dangerously close to the barricades of other firing positions. The “tall barricade” can be a half sheet of supported plywood or something that simulates shooting from around the side of a building. The “low barricade” used for the prone position could be a section of utility pole, a pipe or a few sand bags placed on the ground. The “standing window” could be constructed from available materials to represent a framed opening approximately waist to chest high. The “short barricade” could be constructed of available materials (wood), a surplus non-metallic mailbox, a large garbage container turned upside down or any other available item to teach the use of cover and firing from the kneeling position. Do not use items of heavy gauge metal or any other materials that may cause a ricochet hazard.

(6) Course of Fire.

(a) The shooter is issued a clear weapon with three magazines of six rounds each. On command of the RSO, to load and make ready, the shooter makes a condition 1 weapon, covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb and holsters the weapon. During the COF, the line coach will accompany the shooter ensuring they never move or place themselves in front of the muzzle of the weapon. The line coach should be positioned slightly behind and to the strong side of the shooter in order to watch loading procedures, ensure proper operation of the safety and ensure muzzle discipline. After physical activity, the 3-minute time limit begins when the shooter leaves the ready line and advances at a run to station one “tall barricade.” The shooter fires two rounds at the designated targets. The shooter scans, then engages the de-cocking, or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and firing thumb covering the rear of the slide.

(b) The shooter advances to station two “low barricade”. The shooter drops to a kneeling position, draws the weapon, grips the weapon with two hands, covers down while pointing weapon downrange, bends over and plants forearms on the ground. While maintaining muzzle awareness, shooter moves legs back and assumes a prone position behind the barricade. The shooter fires four rounds from the prone position. The shooter then engages the de-cocking, or safety lever (M9) or manual safety lever (M18), reloads, releases the slide forward, engages the de-cocking lever (M11), assumes the kneeling position while maintaining muzzle awareness and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and firing thumb covering the rear of the slide. The shooter then stands to advance to station three.

(c) The shooter advances to station three “standing window barricade.” The shooter draws and stands back so that the muzzle of the pistol is approximately 1.5 feet from the opening of the window. The shooter then fires four rounds at the designated targets from the standing position. The shooter scans, then engages the de-cocking safety, or lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and firing thumb covering the rear of the slide.

(d) The shooter advances to station four “short barricade”. The shooter establishes a kneeling position, draws, fires two rounds, removes finger from the trigger, gets behind cover to reload, returns to strong side kneeling position and fires two more rounds. The shooter scans, then engages the de-cocking safety, or lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18); and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and firing thumb covering the rear of the slide. The shooter then stands to advance to station five.

(e) The shooter advances to station five “no barricade.” The shooter draws and engages three targets with four rounds. The shooter then clears the weapon, raises the non-firing hand and calls “clear.” This stops the clock.

(f) The line coach directs shooter to “show clear.” After the weapon has been verified clear by the shooter and line coach, the RSO will then direct the shooter to release the slide, verify the weapon safety is on SAFE (M9 and M18) or de-cock (M11); cover the rear of the slide with the firing thumb; and holster. The targets are then scored.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
25	2	Draw and fire two rounds and holster	Standing barricade, standing position
20	4	Draw and fire 4 rounds, reload 6 rounds and holster	Low barricade, prone position
15	4	Draw and fire 4 rounds and holster	Standing window barricade, standing position
10	4	Draw and fire 2 rounds, reload 6 rounds, fire 2 rounds and holster	Short barricade, kneeling position
7	4	Draw and fire 4 rounds, clear weapon, time limit 3 minutes	No barricade standing position

Exhibit 6-4. Summary Table – HPWC

(7) Scoring the HPWC. Scoring is completed by counting the number of hits within the silhouette of the target. A failure to qualify requires remedial dry fire training with a qualified line coach. Qualification will be based on this criteria:

Possible Score	18
Minimum Qualifying Score	12

(a) Maximum Round Count Per Target (target 1 – six hits, target 2 – six hits and target 3 – six hits).

(b) Targets must have a minimum of four hits within the silhouette on all three targets.

(c) Shooter must complete HPWC within 3-minute time limit.

(8) HPWC - Mobile Ranges.

(a) Purpose. This course is a compromise between the normal requirements of the outdoor practical weapons course and the limited distance and overall constraints of the mobile range. The overall purpose is the same as the practical weapons course for longer ranges to experience and test the ability to effectively engage targets in less than ideal, static conditions. The RSO should choose an activity relative to the shooter's physical condition to elevate the heart rate of the shooter directly prior to commencing the COF. Great care should be taken to not exhaust personnel to the point of being unsafe during the COF. Running in place for 2 minutes is suggested. The shooter to coach ratio is one-to-one. This COF is intended to be conducted for only one shooter at a time.

(b) Description. The Navy Practical Weapons Course - Mobile Ranges are designed to be fired on a 10-yard mobile range. One transition target one in lane one (left side) and two "E" silhouette targets, B-21 targets or transition two targets are used in lanes two and three (center and right side). The COF consists of 18 rounds fired with the pistol in 2 minutes. The COF is to be fired until achieving a minimum of 12 hits on at least one COF, not to exceed two consecutive attempts. Upon completion of firing from each station, the shooter will continue to keep their finger on the trigger with the safety on FIRE (M9 and M18) and briefly scan the threat area. The threat area is defined as the multiple target area for the particular station. Scanning should not exceed past these boundaries due to safety considerations. The shooter will then de-cock (M9 and M11) or safe (M18) the weapon, holster and move to the next station with the shooter's hand on the pistol.

(c) Firing Stations.

1. Station One. Lane one, standing barricade. Transition one target initially at 10 yards.

2. Station Two. Lane two, kneeling barricade over fold-down bench. Transition II, B-21 or "E" target initially at 10 yards.

3. Station Three. Lane three, no barricade. Transition II, B-21 or "E" target at 10 yards.

(d) Course of Fire.

1. The shooter is issued a clear weapon with three magazines of six rounds each. On command of the RSO, the shooter loads and makes ready a condition 1 weapon, covers the rear of the slide with the firing thumb and holsters the weapon. During the COF, the line coach will accompany the shooter ensuring to never move or place them in front of the muzzle of the weapon.

The line coach should be positioned slightly behind and to the strong side of the shooter in order to watch loading procedures, ensure proper operation of the safety and ensure muzzle discipline. After physical activity, the 2 minute time limit begins when the shooter arrives at the firing line of station one. When in position, with the back of the weak hand against the barricade the shooter fires four rounds at target 1 (transition target one). The shooter scans, then engages the de-cocking, or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18) and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and firing thumb covering the rear of the slide.

2. The shooter moves to station two “short barricade.” The shooter then fires one round at target 2 and one round at target 3. The shooter reloads and fires one round at target 2 and one round at target 3. The shooter scans, then engages the de-cocking safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18) and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and thumb covering the rear of the slide. During this sequence of fire, the RSO, using the trolley control switch, remotely moves target 1 from the 10-yard line to the 7-yard line.

3. The shooter returns to station one. The shooter then engages target 1 with four rounds from 7 yards in a “no barricade” position. The shooter then engages the de-cocking, or safety lever (M9) or manual safety lever (M18), reloads, engages the de-cocking lever (M11) and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and thumb covering the rear of the slide. During this sequence of fire, the RSO, using the target trolley control switch, remotely moves target 2 from the 10-yard line to the 7-yard line.

4. The shooter moves back to station two “short barricade.” The shooter draws and fires two rounds at target 2, then two rounds at target 3. The shooter scans, then engages the de-cocking, or safety lever (M9), de-cocking lever (M11) or manual safety lever (M18) and holsters the weapon while maintaining a grip on the weapon and thumb covers the rear of the slide.

5. The shooter moves to station three “no barricade,” and fires two rounds at target 3. The shooter then clears the weapon, raises the non-firing hand and calls clear. This stops the clock.

6. The line coach directs shooter to “show clear.” After the weapon has been verified clear by the shooter and line coach, the RSO will then direct the shooters to release the slide, verify the weapon safety is on SAFE (M9 and M18) or de-cock (M11), cover the rear of the slide with the firing thumb and holster.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
10	4	Draw and fire 4 rounds, target 1 and holster	Standing barricade position
10	4	Draw and fire 1 round, target 2, 1 round, target 3, reload, 1 round, target 2, 1 round, target 3 and holster	Kneeling position over top with a short barricade
7	4	Draw and fire 4 rounds, target 1, reload and holster	Standing no barricade
7 10	4	Draw and fire 2 rounds, target 2, 2 rounds, target 3 and holster	Kneeling position over top with a short barricade
10	2	Draw and fire 2 rounds, target 3, clear weapon, time limit 2 minutes	Standing no barricade

Exhibit 6-5. Summary Table – HPWC - Mobile Ranges

(e) **Scoring for HPWC - Mobile Ranges.** Scoring is completed by counting the number of hits within the silhouette of the target. A failure to qualify requires remedial dry fire training with a qualified line coach. Qualification will be based on this criteria:

Possible Score	18
Minimum Qualifying Score	12
Minimum and Maximum Round Count Per Target	
Target 1	6 of 8
Target 2	2 of 4
Target 3	4 of 6
Shooters must complete HPWC within the 3-minute time limit.	

#### 4. Qualification Criteria for Rifles.

##### a. Qualification Criteria.

(1) All Navy personnel armed with a rifle are required to qualify on the Rifle Qualification and Rifle Lowlight Courses.

(2) This section specifically addresses the M14 and M16 (series) rifles. Due to safety concerns, there is no requirement to fire the Rifle Lowlight Course while at sea. However, COs may conduct this COF underway at their discretion.

(3) Before each qualification shoot, all personnel must receive training per chapter 2.

b. Sustainment Criteria. In addition to the training delineated in chapter 2, the semi-annual sustainment training must include either subparagraph 2b(2)(a) or subparagraph 2b(2)(b).

(1) Live Fire. The Rifle Qualification Course using the sustainment targets contained in chapter 7 and using the sustainment scoring criteria (30 hits).

(2) Simulator Fire. Must include simulated Rifle Qualification Course. Additional training in simulated moving targets, shoot-no-shoot drills, simulated combat engagements or marksmanship training aids are also highly encouraged.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Safety on, magazine inserted, round in chamber, bolt forward
Condition 2	Does not apply to M14 or M16 (series) rifles
Condition 3	Safety on, magazine inserted, chamber empty, bolt forward, ejection port cover closed [M16 (series)]
Condition 4	Safety on, magazine removed, chamber empty, bolt forward, ejection port cover closed [M16 (series)]

Exhibit 6-6. Weapons Conditions for M14 and M16 (series) Rifles

c. Stoppage, Immediate and Remedial Actions. See chapter 5 and references (c) and (u).

d. Ammunition.

(1) Only ammunition issued through the Navy Stock System by the NAVSUP GLS AMMO will be used. Prior to the use of any type of ammunition, an NCEA must be established for the requesting unit.

(2) Standard issue 5.56mm or 7.62mm ball ammunition will be used for the rifle courses of fire. In situations where physical limitations due to range construction, design or environmental concerns preclude the use of standard ball ammunition, short-range training or frangible ammunition may be used.

e. Rifle Qualification Course.

(1) Description. The Rifle Qualification Course is used for qualification on the M14 and M16 (series) rifles. This course is designed to be fired on a 200-yard range using the “A” target; at 25 yards using the rifle “A” target reduced 25 yards; or on a 15-yard afloat range using the rifle “A” reduced 15 yards. Sustainment training will be performed on 200-yard ranges using the “A” target (with the 3 ring as the outer scoring ring); at 25 yards using the rifle sustainment target 25 yards; or at 15 yards using the rifle sustainment target 15 yards. Zeroing the rifle will be performed in a steady supported position (i.e., prone) using the 25-meter zeroing M16A2 target. If a 200-yard range is used and there is no 25-yard firing line, the “A” target may be used for zeroing the weapon. The Rifle Qualification Course is fired until achieving a qualifying score not to exceed two consecutive times. Those personnel who do not qualify on their second attempt will be carefully evaluated to determine if remedial training will correct their deficiencies.

If remediation is determined by the SAMI to be effective, an additional attempt to qualify is authorized; however, if multiple fundamental and presentation issues exist, then all dry fire and simulator fire training will be repeated prior to attempting qualification again. Ten-spotter rounds will be used to zero the rifle prior to beginning the actual qualification course. The zeroing sequence will be fired in three-round increments, with the last increment consisting of four rounds for zero confirmation. The Rifle Qualification Course is the foundation course for the M14 and M16 rifles and provides the necessary requisite marksmanship skills. Personnel must first qualify on the Rifle Qualification Course, within the periodicity requirements, prior to firing the Rifle Lowlight Course. Shooters will start from the interview stance. Shooter's time will commence when the command to fire is given by the RSO. All rapid-fire sequences begin with the rifle in the strong side sling arm position with muzzle facing upwards. Forty rounds are fired at the assigned target. The loop should not be tightened excessively on the arm. Exercise caution in the placement of the loop and the M-buckle. Proper placement of the M-buckle reduces the likelihood of the loop "tightening down" on the bicep area, thereby avoiding the reduction of blood flow, numbness and tingling sensation in the sling arm (sling palsy).

(2) Course of Fire.

(a) Zeroing the Weapon. All shooters will adjust their own sights under the close supervision and assistance of the line coach. With a magazine of three rounds and from the prone position, the shooter fires three rounds, clears the weapon. If feasible, the shooter and the line coach go downrange and triangulate the target. At this point, line coaches will assist as necessary. Upon returning to the rear of the ready line and upon RSO approval, line coaches and shooters will move forward and make necessary sight adjustments. This procedure is repeated with a second magazine of three rounds and a final magazine of four rounds for zero confirmation.

(b) Slow Fire – Prone Position. Shooter begins with a condition 4 weapon. On command of the RSO to establish a firing position and load, the shooter establishes a prone position and with a magazine of five rounds, makes a condition 3 weapon. The shooter will be allowed to rest the rifle on the deck once a prone position is established and will be allowed to rest the rifle on the deck for the duration of every prone course of fire. On command of the RSO to make ready and fire, the shooter pulls the charging handle (M16 (series)) or operating rod handle (M14) and releases to make a condition 1 weapon, places the weapon on "fire" in the semi-automatic mode and engages the target. Shooters may use the loop sling or hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Shooters will be given sufficient time to adjust the sling accordingly prior to this firing sequence. Time limit is 5 minutes.

(c) Timed Fire – Standing to Prone Position. The shooter stands at the firing line with a condition 4 weapon and two magazines of five rounds each. On command of the RSO to load, the shooter makes a condition 3 weapon and stands with the weapon in the strong side sling arms position. On command of the RSO establish a firing position, make ready and fire; the shooter brings the weapon to the ready position and then establishes a prone position.

Once the prone position is established, the shooter pulls the charging handle (M16 (series)) or operating rod handle (M14) and releases to make a condition 1 weapon and places the weapon on “fire” in the semi-automatic mode. The shooter then engages the target with five rounds, conducts a dry reload with the second magazine and engages the target with five more rounds. Shooters may use the hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Shooters will be given sufficient time to adjust the sling accordingly prior to this firing sequence. Time limit is 70 seconds.

(d) Slow Fire – Kneeling Position. The shooter stands at the firing line with a condition 4 weapon and a magazine of five rounds. On command of the RSO to establish a firing position and load, the shooter establishes a kneeling position and makes a condition 3 weapon. On command of the RSO to make ready and fire, the shooter pulls the charging handle (M16 (series)) or operating rod handle (M14) and releases to make a condition 1 weapon, places the weapon on “fire” in the semi-automatic mode and engages the target. Shooters may use the hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Time limit is 5 minutes.

(e) Timed Fire – Standing to Kneeling Position. The shooter stands at the firing line with a condition 4 weapon and two magazines of five rounds each. On command of the RSO to load, the shooter makes a condition 3 weapon and stands with the weapon in the strong side sling arms position. On command of the RSO, establish a firing position, make ready and fire; the shooter brings the weapon to the ready position and then establishes a kneeling position. Once the kneeling position is established, the shooter pulls the charging handle (M16 (series)) or operating rod handle (M14) and releases to make a condition 1 weapon and places the weapon on “fire” in the semi-automatic mode. The shooter then engages the target with five rounds, conducts a dry reload with the second magazine and engages the target with five more rounds. Shooters may use the hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Time limit is 70 seconds.

(f) Slow Fire – Standing Position. The shooter stands at the firing line with a condition 4 weapon pointed downrange and one magazine of ten rounds. On command of the RSO to load, make ready and fire, the shooter loads to make a condition 3 weapon, makes ready to make a condition 1 weapon and fires in semi-automatic mode to engage the target. Shooters may use the hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Time limit is 10 minutes.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
200, 25, 15	10	3 rounds, adjust sights 3 rounds, adjust sights 4 rounds, adjust sights 10 minutes	Zero rifle Prone position
200, 25, 15	5	5 rounds in 5 minutes	Prone, from condition 3
200, 25, 15	10	10 rounds in 70 seconds	From standing, sling-arms position, condition 3, to prone
200, 25, 15	5	5 rounds in 5 minutes	Kneeling, from condition 3
200, 25, 15	10	10 rounds in 70 seconds	From standing, sling-arms position, condition 3, to kneeling
200, 25, 15	10	10 rounds in 10 minutes	Standing, from condition 4

Exhibit 6-7. Summary Table – Rifle Qualification Course

(3) Scoring for the Rifle Qualification Course. For the “A” target, hits on the paper (within the target border) and outside the “4” ring are three points. If the grease mark of the bullet (not the tear caused by the bullet) is located in two scoring areas of the target or touches the outside of a higher scoring ring, the higher value will be counted. Marksmanship awards, qualification and record entries will be based on this criteria:

Possible Score	200
Expert	170 – 200
Sharpshooter	160 – 169
Marksman	140 – 159
Minimum Qualifying Score	140
Unqualified	Less than 140
Sustainment Store	30 hits in scoring area (within the target boarder or 3 ring for “A” target)

f. Rifle Lowlight Course.

(1) Description. The Rifle Lowlight Course is used for lowlight on the M14 and M16 (series) rifles. This course is designed to be fired at 15 yards using the transition target I. The COF will be fired until achieving a minimum of 14 hits on at least one COF, not to exceed two consecutive attempts. This COF is designed to be fired on a regulation range using vehicle headlights or other improvised lighting, not to exceed that provided by vehicle headlights, for those sequences where diminished light is required. The amount of light is comparable to natural light 30 minutes past official sunset. Utilizing personally worn artificial light darkening equipment (e.g., goggles) does not satisfy the low light visibility requirement. The same COF may be used for those specially equipped low-light indoor ranges, without modification. Twenty rounds are fired at the appropriate target using the COF in subparagraph 2b(6)(b). Shooters will start from the interview stance. Shooter’s time will commence when the command to fire is

given by the RSO. Those personnel who do not qualify on their second attempt will be carefully evaluated to determine if further remedial training will correct their deficiency.

(2) Course of Fire.

(a) Timed Fire – Prone Position. The shooter establishes a prone position with a condition 4 weapon and two magazines of five rounds. The shooter will be allowed to rest the rifle on the deck once a prone position is established and will be allowed to rest the rifle on the deck for the duration of every prone course of fire. On command of the RSO to load and make ready, the shooter inserts a magazine of five rounds, pulls the charging handle (M16 (series)) or operating rod handle (M14) and releases to make a condition 1 weapon. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter places the weapon on “fire” in the semi-automatic mode and engages the target. Time limit is 30 seconds. On command of the RSO to load and make ready, the shooter replaces the empty magazine with the second magazine of five rounds and releases the bolt forward, making a condition 1 weapon. On command of the RSO, the shooter engages the target. Shooters may use the hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Shooters will be given sufficient time to adjust their sling accordingly prior to this firing sequence. Time limit is 30 seconds.

(b) Timed Fire – Kneeling Position. The shooter establishes a kneeling position with a condition 4 weapon and two magazines of five rounds. On command of the RSO to load and make ready, the shooter inserts a magazine of five rounds, pulls the charging handle (M16 (series) or operating rod handle (M14) and releases to make a condition 1 weapon. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter places the weapon on “fire” in the semi-automatic mode and engages the target. Time limit is 30 seconds. On command of the RSO load and make ready, the shooter replaces the empty magazine with the second magazine of five rounds and releases the bolt forward, making a condition 1 weapon. On command of the RSO to fire, the shooter engages the target. Shooters may use the hasty sling for additional muzzle stabilization during this sequence. Time limit is 30 seconds.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
15	10	5 rounds in 30 seconds 5 rounds in 30 seconds	Prone position
15	10	5 rounds in 30 seconds 5 rounds in 30 seconds	Kneeling position

Exhibit 6-8. Summary Table – Rifle Lowlight Course

(3) Scoring for the Rifle Lowlight Course. Scoring is performed by counting the number of hits within the silhouette of the target. A failure to qualify requires remedial dry fire training with a qualified line coach. Qualification will be based on this criteria:

Possible Score	20
Minimum Qualifying Score	14

5. Qualification Criteria for Shotguns.

a. Qualification Criteria.

(1) All Navy personnel armed with the shotgun are required to qualify on the Shotgun Practical Weapons Course. Before each qualification shoot, all personnel must receive training per chapter 2.

(2) Due to safety concerns, there are no requirements to qualify or complete a sustainment course with the shotgun while at sea. However, COs may conduct these courses of fire underway at their discretion.

b. Sustainment Criteria. In addition to the requirements for semi-annual sustainment training outlined in chapter 2, the semi-annual sustainment training will include live-fire of the Shotgun Practical Weapons Course.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Ammunition in magazine tube, round in chamber, action closed, weapons on safe.
Condition 2	Does not apply to 12-gauge shotgun
Condition 3	Ammunition in magazine tube, chamber empty, action closed, weapons on safe.
Condition 4	Magazine tube empty, chamber empty, action closed, weapons on safe.

Exhibit 6-9. Weapons Conditions for the 12-Gauge Shotgun

c. Malfunctions, Stoppages, Immediate and Remedial Actions. See chapter 5 and references (c) and (u).

d. Ammunition.

(1) Ensure that the classroom-training environment contains no live ammunition. Never mix different types of ammunition when conducting qualifications in this instruction (i.e., live, dummy, blank or marking cartridges).

(2) Only ammunition issued through the Navy Stock System by the NAVSUP GLS AMMO will be used. Prior to the use of any type of ammunition, an NCEA must be established for the requesting unit.

(3) Standard issue 12-gauge 00 buckshot will be used on the Shotgun Practical Weapons Course. In situations where environmental concerns preclude the use of standard shotgun shells, lead-free or non-toxic shells may be used.

(4) In situations where physical limitations due to range construction, design or environmental concerns preclude the use of standard 12-gauge 00 buckshot, non-toxic frangible ammunition may be used.

e. Shotgun Practical Weapons Course.

(1) Purpose. The purpose of the Shotgun Practical Weapons Course is to experience and test the ability of the shooter to effectively engage targets in less than ideal, static conditions. The RSO should choose an activity relative to the shooter's physical condition to elevate the heart rate of the shooter directly prior to commencing the Shotgun Practical Weapons Course. Great care should be taken to not exhaust personnel to the point of being unsafe during the COF. Running in place with no weapon for 2 minutes is suggested. The shooter to coach ratio is one-to-one. This COF is intended to be conducted for only one shooter at a time.

(2) Description. The course will consist of 18 rounds fired with the 12-gauge shotgun using 00 buckshot in 3 minutes. Shooters advance from the ready line, which is behind the 25-yard line. During the COF, the line coach will accompany the shooter ensuring to never move in front of the muzzle of the weapon. The line coach should be positioned slightly behind and to the strong side of the shooter in order to watch loading procedures, ensure proper operation of the safety and ensure muzzle discipline. The shooter will remove their finger from the trigger guard and place the weapon on "safe" prior to loading and moving to the next firing station. Shooters must not move from one position or station to the next with a condition 1 weapon. Line coaches must ensure that the shooter moves between firing positions with a condition 3 or a clear weapon only.

(3) Targets. This COF uses three targets. Targets are numbered from left to right 1, 2 and 3, respectively. The "E" silhouette target is recommended for this COF, but the B-21 or transition target II may also be used.

(4) Firing Stations.

(a) Station One. 25 yards, "tall barricade," standing.

(b) Station Two. 20 yards, "low barricade," kneeling.

(c) Station Three. 15 yards, "no barricade," standing.

(d) Station Four. 10 yards, "no barricade," standing underarm (hip).

Note: "Barricade" is anything that provides cover for the shooter.

(5) Course of Fire

(a) Initiate Course of Fire. After physical activity, the shooter is issued a safe and clear shotgun with 18 rounds of ammunition. Shooter will load as directed. Upon signal from the RSO, the shooter and line coach advance to station one. The 3-minute time limit commences when the shooter reaches station 1.

(b) Station One. Combat load five rounds (one round through the ejection port directly into the chamber, four rounds loaded in magazine tube) standing aimed fire shoulder position “tall barricade” engage three targets in 3, 2, 1, 3, 2 order (left-handed shooters 1, 2, 3, 1, 2 order). Patrol load four rounds (all rounds in magazine tube, none chambered) prior to moving and advance to the next position.

(c) Station Two. Fire four rounds at targets 3, 2, 1, 3 (left-handed shooters 1, 2, 3, 1, kneeling aimed fire position, from the strong side of the “short barricade.” Patrol load four rounds (none chambered) prior to moving and advance to the next position.

(d) Station Three. Fire four rounds at targets 1, 2, 3, 1 (left-handed shooters 3, 2, 1, 3), standing shoulder position, “no barricade.” Patrol load three rounds (none chambered) and advance to final position.

(e) Station Four. Fire three rounds at targets 1, 2, 3, (left-handed shooters 3, 2, 1) standing underarm (hip) position, “no barricade.” Combat load and fire two rounds at targets 2, 3 (left-handed shooters 2, 1). Course complete. The shooter clears the weapon and calls clear.

(f) Complete Course of Fire. The line coach directs shooter to “show clear.” Once line has been made safe and verified by the RSO, the shooter will assume a sling arms position (condition 4 shotgun with action to the rear) as directed. The RSO will then direct shooter and line coach to move forward to score and replace targets.

Yard Line	Rounds	Sequence	Remarks
25	5	Combat load 5 rounds, fire 5 rounds, patrol load 4 rounds - move to station 2	Standing barricade, standing aimed fire shoulder position
20	4	Fire 4 rounds, patrol load 4 rounds - move to station 3	Low barricade, kneeling aimed fire position
15	4	Fire four rounds, patrol load 3 rounds - move to station 4	No barricade, standing aimed fire shoulder position
10	5	Fire three rounds, combat load 2 rounds, fire 2 rounds, clear weapon	No barricade, standing underarm fire (hip) position

Exhibit 6-10. Summary Table – Shotgun Practical Weapons Course

(6) Scoring the Shotgun Practical Weapons Course. Scoring is performed by counting the number of hits within the silhouette of the target. 18 rounds with 9 pellets per round is a total of 162 pellets. Scoring a minimum of 30 pellets on each target for “Satisfactory” qualification with a minimum qualifying score of 90. A failure to qualify requires additional training.

(a) Type of ammunition will be 00 buckshot.

(b) Target types are “E” silhouettes, B-21 or transition target II (about 2 feet apart).

6. Qualification Criteria for Light, Medium and Heavy Machine Guns and Grenade Machine Gun Performance Evaluation.

a. Weapons. MK46 Mod 0 (series) 5.56mm light machine guns, MK43 (variants), M240 (variants), MK48 7.62mm medium machine guns and M2 .50 caliber heavy machine gun.

b. Performance Evaluation Criteria.

(1) All category 2 Navy personnel armed with machine guns must successfully pass the performance evaluation standard annually per this chapter.

(2) All Navy personnel who employ machine guns with the bipod or in a mounted “free gun” mode must complete the Light and Medium Machine Gun Performance Evaluation Course, as well as attend prescribed training.

(3) All Navy personnel that employ machine guns with a tripod and T&E mechanism may also shoot the Machine Gun Performance Evaluation Course – Tripod and T&E Mechanism utilizing reference (w) procedures.

c. Training.

(1) Prerequisite Training. Before each performance evaluation, in addition to training delineated in chapter 2, all personnel must receive headspace and timing (M2HB) and mounts and mounting procedures training.

(2) Machine Gun Drill Sets. Before each performance evaluation, all personnel must perform all live fire machine gun drill sets listed in paragraph 2d(4) via live fire or simulator where available, with the exception of barrel changes.

(3) Sustainment Training. The CSWIs must conduct sustainment training per chapter 3. The machine gun drill sets may be conducted using live or blank ammunition or, if directed by their applicable TYCOM, with a simulator.

(4) Simulator Training. The CSWI is encouraged to use the various simulator systems available in order to enhance the crew served weapon operators' level of proficiency. Simulator training should be used to augment training when live fire training is not feasible. However, simulator training will not be used to completely replace live fire. The CSWI should consider using the simulator systems for the types of training listed in subparagraphs 2d(3)(d).

- (a) Marksmanship training.
- (b) Weapons manipulation (where applicable).
- (c) Moving targets.
- (d) Warning shots.
- (e) Shoot or no-shoot scenarios.
- (f) Simulated combat engagements.

(5) Blank Fire Training. The CSWI is encouraged to use blank fire training as an augmentation to live fire and simulator training. The CSWI should consider using blank fire and simulator training for the types of instruction listed in subparagraphs 2d(3)(e).

- (a) Weapon manipulation.
- (b) Trigger control.
- (c) Loading and unloading procedures.
- (d) Immediate and remedial action procedures.
- (e) Reloading drills.
- (f) Talking guns.
- (g) Force on force training.
- (h) Scenario based training.

(6) Distance and Targets. If a 400-meter range is not available with adequate area targets, the distance may be reduced as long as the target size is reduced to maintain the same distance to target relationship. The performance evaluation will not be fired on less than a 100-meter range with a 2-by-2 feet area target due to weapon design. Ensure applicable range regulations authorize this procedure.

(7) Performance Evaluation. Shooters who receive an “UNSAT” (unsatisfactory) on any phase must start the evaluation over. Shooters who receive a second “UNSAT” must receive remedial training and then start the performance evaluation from the beginning on the next training cycle.

(8) Weapon Malfunctions. Any rounds not fired due to shooter-induced malfunctions will not be fired as an alibi.

d. Machine Gun Drill Sets.

(1) Light and Medium Machine Gun Drills.

Drill or Task	Round Count (minimum)
Trigger control	50
Rhythm shoot	100
Reloads	100
Malfunction drills (immediate and remedial action procedures)	50
Night loads or gas mask (if applicable)	50
Talking guns	100
Search and traverse	50

Exhibit 6-11. Machine Gun and Grenade Launcher Drill Sets

(2) Heavy Machine Gun Drills.

Drill or Task	Round Count (minimum)
Trigger control	50
Rhythm shoot	100
Reloads	100
Malfunction drills (immediate and remedial action procedures)	50
Night loads	25
Talking guns	100
Search and traverse	75

Exhibit 6-12. Heavy Machine Gun and Grenade Launcher Drill Sets

(3) Automatic Grenade Launcher Drills.

Drill or Task	Round Count (minimum)
Trigger control	10
Rhythm shoot	22
Reloads	64
Talking guns	32
Search and traverse	32

Exhibit 6-13. Automatic Grenade Launcher Drill Sets

e. Malfunctions, Stoppages, Immediate and Remedial Actions. See chapter 5 and references (c), (u) and (w).

f. Light and Medium Machine Gun Performance Evaluation.

(1) Description. COF is a six-phase, 100-round performance evaluation fired on a 400-meter range (afloat or ashore) using an 8-by-8 feet size area target. Most military machine gun ranges ashore usually provide adequate area targets that can be used (i.e., old tanks, trucks). For ranges at sea, a target no greater than 8-by-8 foot (e.g., “killer tomato”) placed at 400 to 500 yards will suffice. Any non-fired rounds due to weapon malfunctions will be fired as an alibi. After each shooter has completed five phases of fire, the shooter must change the barrel, which represents the sixth phase of the COF. If the machine gun is not configured for use with a bipod, the machine gun may be fired from a mounted (free-gun) position as long as no T&E is used.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Ammunition on feed tray, bolt locked to the rear, weapon on safe and cover closed
Condition 2	Not applicable
Condition 3	Bolt forward on empty chamber, ammunition on feed tray, weapon on fire and cover closed
Condition 4	No ammunition present, bolt forward on empty chamber, weapon on fire and cover closed

Exhibit 6-14. Weapons Conditions for MK 46 (Series), M240, MK 43 and MK 48

(2) Scoring. Scoring is based on the shooter demonstrating the ability to safely manipulate the weapon, thorough knowledge of condition codes, loading, unloading, reloading procedures and the ability to effectively engage (hit) the area target utilizing three to five round bursts. Overall competency of the shooter and effective engagement of the area target will be determined by the CSWI. The shooter must effectively obtain and maintain a Beaten Zone on the designated target and meet the minimum time requirements during each phase of the performance evaluation COF in order to pass the evaluation.

(3) Course of Fire.

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(a) Using the target specified, each sequence begins with the machine gun on the bipod or on the mount (without a T&E mechanism) pointed downrange. The shooter must take charge of the weapon prior to commencing the evolution by verifying the weapon is CLEAR and placing it in condition 4. At the completion of each phase, the shooter will unload, show clear. Each "SAT" (satisfactory) or "UNSAT" portion of the course will be determined by the CSWI. COF consist of phases 1 through 6.

(b) During phase 1, if sight adjustments are to be made, the weapon must be "clear" and "safe" prior to any adjustments.

PHASE 1 - Zero or Establish Hold		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: 20-round belt		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Prone (bipod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 3 minutes		
Command: "With a 20-round belt of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "load, make ready," and "fire" on the designated target in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. The shooter must "unload, show clear" at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Zero or establish hold	SAT	UNSAT
Unload, show clear	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 2 - Engage Single Target		
Starting Condition: 3		
Ammunition: 20-round belt		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Prone (bipod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 15 seconds to effectively hit the target		
Command: "With a 20-round belt of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "make ready" and "fire" on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter must "unload, show clear" at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 3	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target (15 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
Unload, show clear	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 3 - Engage Target		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: 20-round belt		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Prone (bipod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 20 seconds to effectively hit the target		
Command: "With a 20-round belt of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "load, make ready," and "fire" on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter must "unload, show clear" at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target (20 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
"Unload, show clear"	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 4 – Reload		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: Two 10-round belts		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Prone (bipod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: The reload must be conducted in less than 15 seconds. The reload time will be measured from the last round of the first belt to the first round of the second belt.		
Command: "With two 10-round belts of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "load, make ready," and "fire" on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter will then conduct either a condition 1 or condition 3 reload when the first belt runs out and then re-engage the target with the second belt. The shooter must "unload, show clear" at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
Conduct effective reload (15 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively re-engage target	SAT	UNSAT
"Unload, show clear"	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 5 – Reload	
Starting Condition: 3	
Ammunition: Two 10-round belts	
Target: Specified target	
Position: Prone (bipod) or standing (mounted)	
Time Limit: The reload must be conducted in less than 15 seconds. The reload time will be measured from the last round of the first belt to the first round of the second belt.	
Command: “With two 10-round belts of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “make ready” and “fire” on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter will conduct either a condition 1 or condition 3 reload when the first belt runs out and then re-engage the target with the second belt. The shooter must “unload, show clear” at the completion of fire.	
Score:	
Place weapon in condition 3	SAT UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT UNSAT
Conduct effective reload (15 seconds)	SAT UNSAT
Effectively re-engage target	SAT UNSAT
“Unload, show clear”	SAT UNSAT

PHASE 6 – Barrel Change	
Shooter must properly conduct a barrel change. Upon completion, weapon will be left in the “unload, show clear” condition for turnover to the next shooter.	
Score:	
Conduct proper barrel change	SAT UNSAT
”Unload, show clear”:	SAT UNSAT

Exhibit 6-15. Light and Medium Machine Gun Course of Fire

Phase	Purpose	Distance (meters)	Rounds	Starting Condition	Starting Position	Sequence
1	Zero or established hold	400m	20	4	Prone-Bipod Standing-Mounted	20 rounds (3 minutes)
2	Engage target	400m	20	3	Prone-Bipod Standing-Mounted	20 rounds (15 seconds)
3	Engage target	400m	20	4	Prone-Bipod Standing-Mounted	20 rounds (20 seconds)
4	Reload	400m	2X10	4	Prone-Bipod Standing-Mounted	One 10-round belt reload; one 10-round belt, reload time limit 15 seconds
5	Reload	400m	2X10	3	Prone-Bipod Standing-Mounted	One 10-round belt reload; one 10-round belt, reload time limit 15 seconds
6	Barrel change	Not applicable (N/A)	N/A	N/A	Unload, show clear	Change barrel

Exhibit 6-16. Summary Table. Category 2 Light and Medium Machine Gun Performance

g. Heavy Machine Gun (M2HB) Performance Evaluation.

(1) Description. COF is a six-phase, 100-round performance evaluation, fired on a 400-meter range (afloat or ashore) using an 8-by-8 foot-size area target. Most military machine gun ranges ashore usually provide adequate area targets that can be used (i.e., old tanks, trucks). For ranges at sea, a target no greater than 8-by-8 feet (i.e., “killer tomato”) placed at 400 to 500 yards will suffice. Any non-fired rounds due to weapon malfunctions will be fired as an alibi. The machine gun will be fired from a mounted (free-gun) position with no T&E mechanism used. Each shooter will set headspace and verify timing prior to firing the performance evaluation. After the shooter has completed five phases of fire, the barrel must be changed and headspace and timing set and verified again, which represents the sixth phase of the COF.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Ammunition on feed tray, bolt forward, round in the chamber, cover assembly closed, weapon on safe (if equipped)
Condition 2	Not applicable
Condition 3	Ammunition on feed tray, bolt forward on empty chamber, cover assembly closed, weapon on safe (if equipped)
Condition 4	No ammunition present on the feed tray, bolt forward on an empty chamber, cover assembly closed, weapon on safe (if equipped)

Exhibit 6-17. Weapons Conditions for M2 .50 Caliber Heavy Machine Gun

(2) Scoring. Scoring is based on the shooter demonstrating the ability to safely manipulate the weapon; thorough knowledge of condition codes, loading, unloading and reloading procedures; and the ability to effectively engage (hit) the area target utilizing three to five round bursts. Overall competency of the shooter and effective engagement of target will be determined by the CSWI. The shooter must obtain and maintain a beaten zone.

(3) Course of Fire. Using the target specified, each sequence begins with the machine gun on the mount (without T&E device) pointed downrange. The shooter must take charge of the weapon prior to commencing the evolution by verifying the weapon is “clear” and “safe” and placing it in condition 4. At the completion of each phase, the shooter will unload, show clear and safe. Each SAT or UNSAT portion of the course will be determined by the CSWI.

(a) During phase 1, if sight adjustments are to be made, the weapon must be “clear” and “safe” prior to any adjustments.

(b) All phases of the performance evaluation will be conducted with the M2HB in automatic fire.

PHASE 1 – Zero or Establish Hold		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: 20-round belt		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Sitting (tripod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 3 minutes		
Command: “With a 20-round belt of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready,” and “fire” on the designated target in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. The shooter must “unload, show clear” at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Verify headspace and timing	SAT	UNSAT
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Zero or establish hold	SAT	UNSAT
”Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 2 – Engage Single Target		
Starting Condition: 3		
Ammunition: 20-round belt		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Sitting (tripod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 15 seconds to effectively hit the target		
Command: “With a 20-round belt of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “make ready” and “fire” on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter must “unload, show clear” and safe at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 3	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target (15 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
“Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 3 – Engage Target		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: 20-round belt		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Sitting (tripod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 20 seconds to effectively hit the target		

Command: “With a 20-round belt of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready” and “fire” on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter must “unload and show clear” at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target (20 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
”Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 4 – Reload		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: two 10-round belts		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Sitting (tripod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: The reload must be conducted in less than 20 seconds. The reload time will be measured from the last round of the first belt to the first round of the second belt.		
Command: “With two, 10-round belts of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready” and “fire” on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter will then conduct either a side or top reload when the first belt runs out and then re-engage the target with the second belt. The shooter must “unload, show clear” and safe at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
Conduct effective reload (20 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively re-engage target	SAT	UNSAT
“Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT
PHASE 5 – Reload		
Starting Condition: 3		
Ammunition: two 10-round belts		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Sitting (tripod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: The reload must be conducted in less than 20 seconds. The reload time will be measured from the last round of the first belt to the first round of the second belt.		

Command: “With two, 10-round belts of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “make ready” and “fire” on the designated target utilizing multiple three to five round bursts while maintaining a consistent cone of fire and beaten zone to effectively engage the target. The shooter will conduct either a side or top reload when the first belt runs out and then re-engage the target with the second belt. The shooter must “unload, show clear” and safe at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 3	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
Conduct effective reload (20 seconds)	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively re-engage target	SAT	UNSAT
”Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 6 – Barrel Change, Headspace and Timing		
Shooter must properly conduct a barrel change and then set headspace and verify timing (set if required). Upon completion, weapon will be left in unload, show clear and safe for turnover to the next shooter.		
Score:		
Conduct proper barrel change	SAT	UNSAT
Set and verify headspace and timing	SAT	UNSAT
“Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

Exhibit 6-18. Phases of Performance for M2 .50 Caliber Heavy Machine Gun

Phase	Purpose	Distance (meters)	Rounds	Starting Condition	Starting Position	Sequence
1	Zero or established hold	400m	20	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	20 rounds (3 minutes)
2	Engage target	400m	20	3	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	20 rounds (15 seconds)
3	Engage target	400m	20	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	20 rounds (20 seconds)
4	Reload	400m	2X10	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	One 10-round belt, reload one 10-round belt, reload time limit 20 seconds
5	Reload	400m	2X10	3	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	One 10-round belt, reload one 10-round belt, reload time limit 20 seconds
6	Barrel change	N/A	N/A	N/A	Unload, show clear	Change barrel Set and verify headspace and timing

Exhibit 6-19. Summary Table – Category 2 Heavy Machine Gun Performance Evaluation

h. Heavy Machine Gun with Tripod and T&E Performance Evaluation.

(1) Description. COF is a five-phase 100-round performance evaluation fired ashore using a 10-meter machine gun target. Ensure placement of the 10-meter target is far enough away from the designated backstop to prevent injury from potential ricochets. Any non-fired rounds due to weapon malfunctions will be fired as an alibi. After each shooter has completed all four phases of fire, the shooter must change the barrel.

When firing the machine gun performance evaluation – T&E with the M2HB, shooter will also set headspace and verify timing before firing and again after conducting the barrel change.

(2) Scoring for the Machine Gun Performance Evaluation.

(a) Tripod and T&E. One point is given for each hit, not to exceed six in each scoring space. A bonus of two points is given for each scoring space hit, regardless of the number of hits within each space. Thus, the shooter may receive a maximum of eight points per scoring area (six points for six hits plus two bonus points). A failure to qualify requires additional training.

(b) Possible Score: 120. Minimum Qualifying Score: 63.

(3) Course of Fire. Using the target and pasters specified, this COF will be used. Each sequence begins with the machine gun on the tripod with T&E and pointed downrange. The shooter must take charge of the weapon prior to commencing the evolution by verifying the weapon is “clear” and “safe” and placing it in condition 4. At the completion of each phase, the shooter will “unload, show clear” and safe. All scoring will be determined by the CSWI.

PHASE 1 - Zero or Establish Hold
Starting Condition: 4
Ammunition: 10-round belt
Target: 10m machine gun target, pasters 1 and 2
Position: Prone or sitting with T&E device
Time Limit: No time limit
Command: “With a 10-round belt of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready” and “fire” on the designated pasters in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. Shooter will fire two bursts of five rounds each, one burst in each paster.

PHASE 2 – Fixed Fire
Starting Condition: 4
Ammunition: 12-round belt
Target: 10m machine gun target, pasters 3 and 4
Position: Prone or sitting with T&E device
Time Limit: No time limit
Command: “With a 12-round belt of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready,” and “fire” on the designated pasters. Shooter will fire two bursts of six rounds each, one burst in each paster.
Score: One for each hit plus bonus points
PHASE 3 – Traversing and Searching Fire

Starting Condition: 4
Ammunition: 30-round belt
Target: 10m machine gun target, pasters 5 through 6
Position: Prone or sitting with T&E device
Time Limit: No time limit
Command: "With a 30-round belt of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "load, make ready" and "fire" on the designated pasters. Shooter will fire five bursts of six rounds each, one burst in each paster. <u>Note:</u> There are three blank pasters between pasters 5 and 6.
Score: One for each hit plus bonus points
PHASE 4 – Traversing and Searching Fire
Starting Condition: 4
Ammunition: 48-round belt
Target: 10m machine gun target, pasters 7 through 8
Position: Prone or sitting with T&E device
Time Limit: No time limit
Command: "With a 48-round belt of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "load, make ready" and "fire" on the designated paster. Shooter will fire eight bursts of six rounds each, one burst in each paster. <u>Note:</u> There are six blank pasters between pasters 7 and 8.
Score: One for each hit plus bonus points (see subparagraph 5b)

PHASE 5 – Barrel Change
Shooter must properly conduct a barrel change and set headspace and timing (if applicable). Upon completion, weapon will be left in unload, show clear and safe for turnover to the next shooter.

Exhibit 6-20. Machine Gun Course of Fire

Phase	Purpose	Distance (meters)	Rounds	Starting Condition	Starting Position	Sequence
1	Zero or established hold	10m	10	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	2 bursts of 5 rounds. Pastors 1 to 2. No time limit.
2	Fixed fire	10m	12	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	2 bursts of 6 rounds. Pastors 3 to 4.

						No time limit. 1 point per hit plus bonus points.
3	Traversing and searching fire	10m	30	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	5 bursts of 6 rounds. Pastors 5 to 6. 3 minutes 1 point per hit plus bonus points.
4	Traversing and searching Fire	10m	48	4	Sitting-tripod; standing-mounted	8 bursts of 6 rounds. Pastors 7 to 8. 3 minutes 1 point per hit plus bonus points.
5	Barrel change	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Exhibit 6-21. Summary Table – Machine Gun Performance Evaluation – Tripod and T&E

i. Grenade Machine Gun (MK 19 Mod 3) Performance Evaluation.

(1) COF is a single-phase, 64-round performance evaluation, fired on a 400-meter range (afloat or ashore) using an 8-by-8 foot size area target. Most military machine gun ranges ashore usually provide adequate area targets that can be used, (i.e., old tanks, trucks). For ranges at sea, target no greater than 8-by-8 foot (i.e., “killer tomato”) placed at 400 to 500 yards will suffice. Any non-fired rounds due to weapon malfunctions will be fired as an alibi. The machine gun will be fired from a mounted (free-gun) position with no T&E mechanism used.

(2) The MK19 must not be fired at ranges of less than 310 meters when using high explosive or high explosive, dual purpose ammunition. If training or practice ammunition is

being used, the range and target combination may be reduced to 200 meters with a 4-by-4 feet target (no deviation). Ensure applicable range regulations authorize this procedure.

7. Weapons Conditions for MK19 MOD 3 40mm Grenade Machine Gun.

a. Description. Never attempt to fire MK19 munitions from an M79 or M203 grenade launcher.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Bolt locked to the rear, no round in the chamber, ammunition in the feeder, round on the bolt face, cover assembly closed and latched, weapon on safe
Condition 2	Not applicable
Condition 3	Bolt locked to the rear, no round in the chamber, ammunition in the feeder, no round on the bolt face, cover assembly closed and latched, weapon on safe
Condition 4	No round in the chamber, no ammunition in the feeder, bolt forward, cover assembly closed and latched, weapon on safe

Exhibit 6-22. Weapons Conditions for MK19 MOD 3 40mm Grenade Machine Gun

b. Scoring. Scoring is based on the shooter demonstrating the ability to safely manipulate the weapon; thorough knowledge of condition codes, loading, unloading and reloading procedures; and the ability to effectively engage (hit) the target utilizing three to five round bursts. Overall competency of the shooter and effective engagement of target will be determined by the CSWI. The shooter must effectively engage the target and meet the minimum time requirements during each phase of the performance evaluation COF in order to pass the evaluation.

c. Course of Fire. Using the target specified, this COF will be used. The sequence begins with the machine gun on the mount (without a T&E mechanism) pointed downrange. The shooter must take charge of the weapon prior to commencing the evolution by verifying the weapon is “clear” and “safe” and placing it in condition 4. At the completion of the evaluation, the shooter will unload, show clear and safe. Each SAT or UNSAT portion of the course will be determined by the CSWI.

(1) Prior to giving the firing commands for phase 1, the CSWI will have the shooter place their weapon in condition 3.

(2) If ammunition is packaged in more than 32 rounds per can, the course of fire will be conducted with two full cans.

PHASE 1 – Engage Single Target and Reload
Starting Condition: 3

Ammunition: two 32-round belts		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Sitting (tripod) or standing (mounted)		
Time Limit: 4 minutes		
Command: "With a 32-round can of ammunition," on command, the shooter will "make ready" and "fire" to effectively engage the target. The shooter will then conduct an effective reload when the first can runs out and then re-engage the target with the second can. The shooter must "unload, show clear" and safe at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Place weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
Conduct effective reload	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively re-engage target	SAT	UNSAT
"Unload, show clear"	SAT	UNSAT

Exhibit 6-23. Course of Fire for Mk19 Mod 3 40mm Grenade Machine Gun

Phase	Purpose	Distance (meters)	Rounds	Starting Condition	Starting Position	Sequence
	Engage single target and reload	400m	2x32	3	Sitting–tripod; standing-mounted	64 rounds (4 minutes)

Exhibit 6-24. Summary Table – Category 2 Grenade Machine Gun Performance Evaluation

d. Category 2 Qualification Criteria For M203 Grenade Launcher Performance Evaluation

(1) Performance Evaluation Criteria. All category 2 Navy personnel armed with M203 grenade launchers must successfully pass the performance evaluation standard annually. Before each qualification shoot, all personnel must receive training per chapter 2.

(a) If a 400-meter range is not available with adequate area targets, the distance may be reduced as long as the target size is reduced to maintain the same distance to target relationship. The performance evaluation should not be fired on less than 100-meters with a point target or 125-meters area target.

(b) Shooters who receive an UNSAT on any phase must start the evaluation over. Shooters who receive a second UNSAT must receive remedial training and then start the performance evaluation from the beginning on the next training cycle.

(c) Any rounds not fired due to shooter-induced malfunctions will not be fired as an alibi.

(2) Sustainment Criteria. In addition to the requirements for semi-annual sustainment training outlined in chapter 2, the semi-annual sustainment training will include live-fire of the M203 Grenade Launcher Performance Evaluation.

Weapon Condition	Description
Condition 1	Round inserted, barrel latched down, safety is on
Condition 2	Not applicable
Condition 3	Not applicable
Condition 4	Weapon is free of ammunition, barrel latched down, safety is on

Exhibit 6-25. Weapons Conditions for M203 Grenade Launcher

(3) Malfunctions, Stoppages, Immediate and Remedial Actions. See chapter 5 and references (u) and (w).

(4) M203 Grenade Launcher Performance Evaluation.

(a) Description. COF is a 4-phase, 8-round performance evaluation fired on a 400-meter range (afloat or ashore) using an 8-by-8 feet size area target. Most military machine gun ranges ashore usually provide adequate area targets that can be used (i.e., old tanks, trucks). For ranges at sea, a target no greater than 8-by-8 feet (i.e., “killer tomato”), placed at 400 to 500 yards will suffice. Any non-fired rounds due to weapon malfunctions will be fired as an alibi. Never attempt to fire MK19 munitions from a M203 grenade launcher. When firing high explosives grenades, the minimum safe firing range during training is 181 yards or 165 meters.

(b) Scoring. Scoring is based on the shooter demonstrating the ability to safely manipulate the weapon; thorough knowledge of condition codes; loading, unloading and reloading procedures; and the ability to effectively engage (hit) the point or area target. Overall competency of the shooter and effective engagement of target will be determined by the CSWI. The shooter must effectively engage the target and meet the minimum time requirements during each phase of the performance evaluation COF in order to pass the evaluation.

(c) Course of Fire.

1. Using the target specified, this COF will be used. Each sequence begins with the M203 grenade launcher pointed downrange.

The shooter must take charge of the weapon prior to commencing the evolution by verifying the weapon is “clear” and “safe” and placing it in condition 4. At the completion of each phase, the shooter will, “unload, show clear.” Each SAT or UNSAT portion of the course will be determined by the CSWI.

2. During phase 1, if sight adjustments are to be made, the weapon must be “clear” and “safe” prior to any adjustments.

PHASE 1 – Zero or Establish Hold Engage Single Target with Quadrant Site		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: 2 rounds		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Standing		
Time Limit: 3 minutes		
Command: “With 1-round of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready,” and “fire” on the designated target in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. The shooter will then conduct a reload and re-engage the target with the second round. The shooter must “unload, show clear” at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Verify weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Place weapon in condition 1	SAT	UNSAT
Zero and establish hold	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
”Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 2 – Zero or Establish Hold Engage Single Target with Leaf Site		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: Two rounds		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Standing		
Time Limit: 3 minutes		
Command: “With 1-round of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready” and “fire” on the designated target in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. The shooter will then conduct a reload and re-engage the target with the second round. The shooter must “unload, show clear” at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Verify weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Place weapon in condition 1	SAT	UNSAT
Zero and establish hold	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
“Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

PHASE 3 – Zero or Establish Hold Engage Single Target with Quadrant Site		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: Two rounds		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Kneeling		
Time Limit: 3 minutes		
Command: “With 1-round of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready,” and “fire” on the designated target in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. The shooter will then conduct a reload and re-engage the target with the second round. The shooter must “unload, show clear” at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Verify weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Place weapon in condition 1	SAT	UNSAT
Zero and establish hold	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
“Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT
PHASE 4 – Zero or Establish Hold Engage Single Target with Leaf Site		
Starting Condition: 4		
Ammunition: 2 rounds		
Target: Specified target		
Position: Kneeling		
Time Limit: 3 minutes		
Command: “With 1-round of ammunition,” on command, the shooter will “load, make ready,” and “fire” on the designated target in order to zero the weapon or establish a proper hold. The shooter will then conduct a reload and re-engage the target with the second round. The shooter must “unload and show clear” and safe at the completion of fire.		
Score:		
Verify weapon in condition 4	SAT	UNSAT
Place weapon in condition 1	SAT	UNSAT
Zero and establish hold	SAT	UNSAT
Effectively engage target	SAT	UNSAT
”Unload, show clear”	SAT	UNSAT

Exhibit 6-26. Course of Fire for M203 Grenade Launcher

Phase	Purpose	Distance (meters)	Rounds	Starting Condition	Starting Position	Sequence
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1	Zero or established hold (Quadrant sight)	400m	2	4	Standing	2 rounds (3 minutes)
2	Zero or established hold (Leaf sight)	400m	2	4	Kneeling	2 rounds (3 minutes)
3	Zero or established hold (Quadrant sight)	400m	2	4	Standing	2 rounds (3 minutes)
4	Zero or established hold (Leaf sight)	400m	2	4	Kneeling	2 rounds (3 minutes)

Exhibit 6-27. Summary Table - Category 2 M203 Grenade Launcher Performance Evaluation

CHAPTER 7  
TARGETS

1. General. The targets identified in paragraph 2 are to be used for all formal courses of fire.
2. Policy. The targets used for the various courses of fire are per subparagraphs 2a through 2i.
  - a. Navy Handgun Qualification Course.
    - (1) Transtar II
    - (2) B-21
    - (3) Transtar I (15-yard ranges)
  - b. Navy Handgun Sustainment Course. Transtar I.
  - c. Handgun Lowlight Course.
    - (1) “E” silhouette
    - (2) B-21
    - (3) Transtar II
  - d. Handgun Practical Weapons Course.
    - (1) “E” silhouette
    - (2) B-21
    - (3) Transtar II
    - (4) Transtar I (15-yard ranges)
  - e. Handgun Practical Weapons Course – Mobile Ranges.
    - (1) Transtar I
    - (2) “E” silhouette
    - (3) B-21

(4) Transtar II

f. Rifle Qualification Course.

(1) Rifle “A” Target (200-yard ranges)

(2) 25-Meter Zeroing Target M16A2 (25-yard ranges)

(3) Rifle “A” Target Reduced 25 Yards (25-yard ranges)

(4) Rifle “A” Target Reduced 15 Yards (15-yard ranges)

g. Rifle Sustainment Course.

(1) Rifle “A” target (200-yard ranges)

(2) 25-Meter Zeroing Target M16A2 (25-yard ranges)

(3) Rifle Sustainment Target 25 Yards (25-yard ranges)

(4) Rifle Sustainment Target 15 Yards (15-yard ranges)

h. Rifle Lowlight Course. Transtar I.

i. Shotgun Practical Weapons Course.

(1) “E” silhouette

(2) B-21

(3) Transtar II

(4) Transtar I (15-yard ranges)

3. Target Sources.

a. The targets in exhibit 7-1 are available through the Navy Supply Systems Command.

Target Name	NSN
Rifle "A" Target	6920-00-627-4071
25 M Zeroing Target M16A2	6920-01-253-4005
"E" Silhouette Target	6920-00-795-1806
10 M Machine gun Target	6920-00-078-5123

Exhibit 7-1. Target Sources

- b. The Transtar I and Transtar II targets are available from this source:

Unicor Federal Prison Industries  
400 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20534  
Local Area 202-305-3756  
Toll Free 1-800-827-3168  
Fax 202-305-7353  
[www.unicor.gov](http://www.unicor.gov)

Target Name	Item Number
Transtar I	048004018099
Transtar II	048004018101

Exhibit 7-2. Transtar I and Transtar II Target Sources

- c. The B-21 target is available from various commercial sources. The B-21 target used in Navy pistol qualification courses is the full-sized B-21 target.

- d. Exhibits 7-3 to 7-8 are samples of approved targets for required courses of fire.

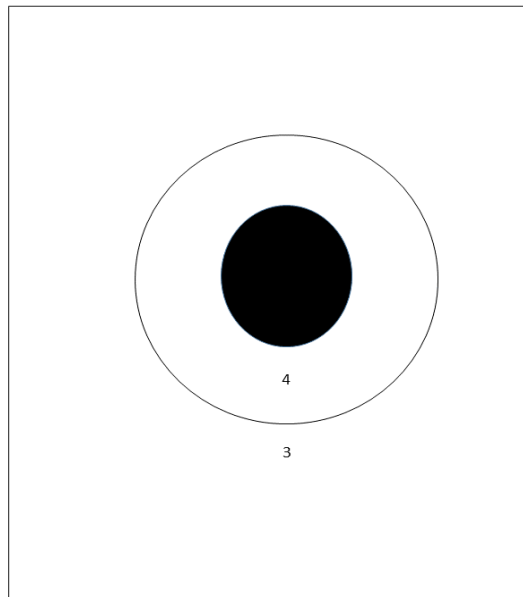


Exhibit 7-3. Rifle "A" Target Reduced 25 Yards

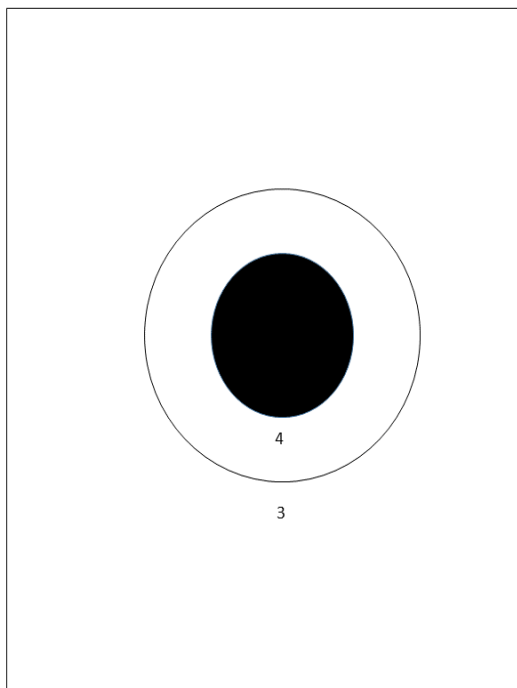


Exhibit 7-4. Rifle "A" Target Reduced 15 Yards

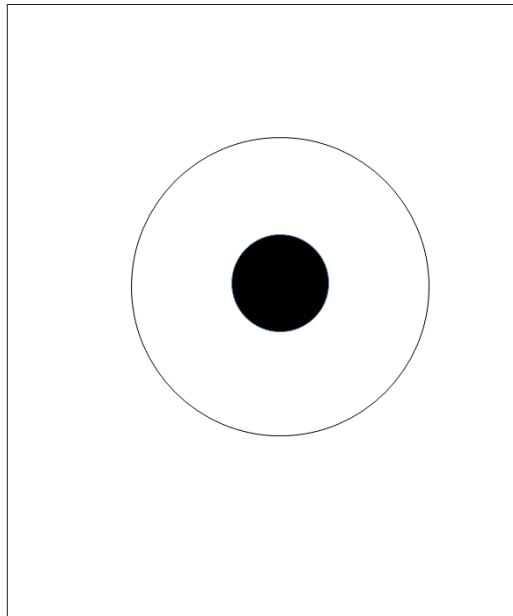


Exhibit 7-5. Rifle Sustainment 25 Yards

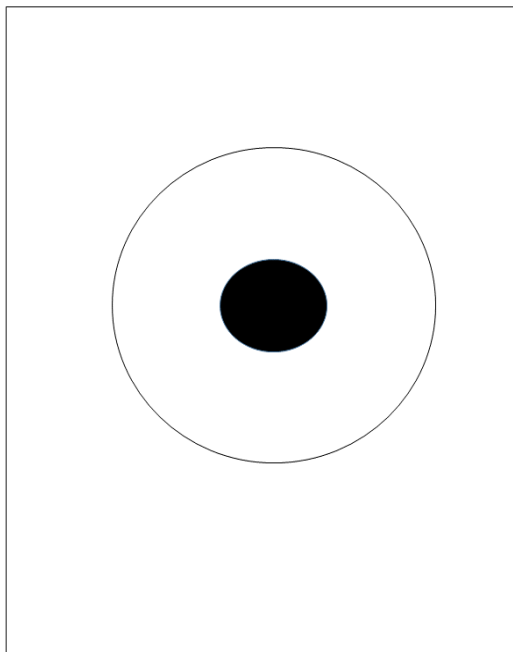


Exhibit 7-6. Rifle Sustainment 15 Yards

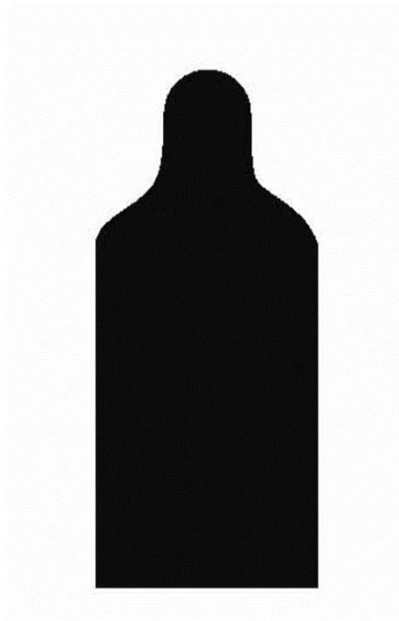


Exhibit 7-7. Reduced Silhouette 50 Yards



Exhibit 7-8. Reduced Silhouette 100 Yards

CHAPTER 8  
MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS

1. General. A marksman, sharpshooter or expert is a person in any grade or rating who qualified by firing the standard service pistol or rifle over one of the prescribed courses and has attained the minimum qualification score for the specific marksmanship award.

2. Policy.

a. The Navy Pistol Marksmanship Ribbon, Navy Sharpshooter Award and Navy Expert Pistol Medal may only be earned on the Navy Handgun Qualification Course and should be conducted on a certified gun range.

b. The Navy Rifle Marksmanship Ribbon, Navy Sharpshooter Award and Navy Expert Rifle Medal may be earned on the Rifle Qualification Course. The Navy Rifle Marksmanship Ribbon, Navy Sharpshooter Award and Navy Expert Rifle Medal must be earned using a rifle equipped with iron sights or non-telescopic dot type sights. The use of scoped rifles is prohibited.

c. The duration of qualification as marksman, sharpshooter or expert is indefinite.

d. Those who qualify as an expert rate a ribbon and medal. The ribbon has a silver "E" attachment and the medal has no attachments.

e. Those who qualify as a sharpshooter rate a ribbon with a bronze "S" attachment. Those who qualify as a marksman rate a ribbon with no attachments.

f. OPNAV 3591/1 will be forwarded by the RSO via the chain of command to the CO. The RSO's endorsement to the CO should indicate the qualification attained for each member in order to facilitate service record entries and the procurement of expert medals.

g. NSN for the Expert Pistol Medal is 8455-00-577-5877. The NSN for the Expert Rifle Medal is 8455-00-577-5878. Marksmanship ribbons will be purchased from the military exchange. Expert medals are issued for the first qualification only; however, COs may issue a replacement medal without charge if the medal has been lost, destroyed or rendered unfit for wear on the uniform.

h. Navy active duty and Reserve personnel who qualify on a small arms qualification course with any other branch of the Military Services (including Coast Guard) may wear the appropriate Navy ribbon or medal corresponding to that service qualification designation.

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i. Civilian personnel who are required to be armed to perform official duties, are required to fire the courses of fire contained in this instruction; however, they will not be issued nor are they authorized to wear Navy marksmanship awards on civilian clothing or any assigned uniform.

APPENDIX A  
REFERENCES

- (a) OPNAVINST 5530.14E
- (b) SECNAVINST S8126.1A (NOTAL)
- (c) NTRP 3-07.2.2, Weapons Handling Standard Procedures and Guidelines
- (d) OPNAVINST 5530.13C
- (e) DoD Instruction 6490.03 of 19 June 2019
- (f) DoD Instruction 6490.07 of 5 February 2010
- (g) DoD Instruction 6490.04 of 4 March 2013
- (h) NAVPERS 15560D, Article 1910
- (i) 36 U.S.C. §40721-40733
- (j) SECNAVINST 1650.1J
- (k) OPNAVINST 5100.27B
- (l) NAVSUP P-724
- (m) OPNAVINST 1500.75D
- (n) OPNAVINST 3500.39D
- (o) SECNAVINST 5500.37
- (p) CJCSI 3121.01B
- (q) OPNAVINST F3100.6J (FOUO) (NOTAL)
- (r) OPNAVINST 5102.1D
- (s) OPNAVINST 5100.19F
- (t) OPNAVINST 5100.23G
- (u) Naval Sea Systems Command Publication SW300-BC-SAF-010
- (v) MCRP 8-10B.2, Rifle Marksmanship
- (w) Marine Corps Tactical Publication (MCTP) 3-01C, Machine Guns and Machine Gun Gunnery
- (x) Department of the Army, Training Circular (TC) 3-23.35 (Pistol), of 30 May 2017
- (y) Marine Corps Reference Publication (MCRP) 8-10B.3, Pistol Marksmanship