

NAVAL CUSTOM, COURTESY, HONOR AND CEREMONIES

A. Shipboard customs and appropriate courtesy

1. Bridge customs
 - a. Center of operation during underway
 - b. Counterpart when in port is the quarter-deck
 - c. Only men of watch are permitted to stay at the bridge
 - d. Personnel not on watch will be accompanied by a salute
OOD, such request will be accompanied by a salute
 - e. If the captain is present all personnel will give his proper greetings to include civilian
2. Boarding your own ship
 - a. Salute National Ensign if flying (omit if Nat'l Ensign is hauled down)
 - b. Salute OOD or his representative (OOD, MAA, POW or GW) and say "I report my return, Sir"
 - c. OOD will return salute and say "Very Well"
3. Leaving your own ship
 - a. Salute OOD and say, "I request permission to leave the ship, Sir" or I request permission to go on the pier, Sir"
 - b. OOD return salute and say "Permission Granted"
 - c. Salute National Ensign if flying and go down
4. Boarding other ship
 - a. Same way as boarding your own ship except will say "I request permission to come aboard, Sir"
 - b. You maybe asked to identify yourself and state your business.
 - c. OOD return salute and say "Permission granted"
5. Leaving other ship
 - a. Salute OOD and say "With your permission, Sir, I shall leave the ship"
 - b. OOD may research and inspect you
 - c. OOD return salute and say "Permission Granted"
 - d. Salute National Ensign if flying and leave
6. Boarding and leaving Ship in a group/party/company
 - a. Only OIC/POIC request permission from OOD to board or leave
 - b. All men salute National Ensign and OOD both coming and leaving
7. Crossing Nests
 - a. When your ship is tied alongside with another ship and you will pass in Quarter-deck of another ship in going to the pier and back
 - b. Ask permission from the quarter-deck watch (OOD, JOOD, MAA, POWW or GW)
 - c. Procedures:
 1. Salute the colors and then the OOD and say "Request permission to cross"
 2. Repeat procedures on each ship until you reach your own ship.
 3. Do not salute the colors or quarter-deck when leaving between your own ship and pier.

8. Divine services

- A) Church pennant is flown at mast.
- B) Pass the word thru the PA system: "divine services are being held in (place/space). Maintain quiet about the decks.
- C) All persons within the area will uncover to include watches.

9. Sick Bay

- A. all hands will uncover when entering (a form of respect to the dying and dead)
- B. Silence maintained and smoking prohibited.

10. Officers and CPO country

- A. Officers country includes all staterooms and the wardroom.
- B. CPO Country includes their living spaces and mess hall.
- C. Do not enter these areas except on business.
- D. Do not use their passageway as through fares or short cuts.
- E. Uncover in this area except man on watch.
- F. always knock before entering, except head, your own room, wardroom.

11. Mess Hall

- A. Other enlistedmen's dining hall.
- B. treated same courtesy as ward room.
- C. All hands uncover when meal is in progress to include men on watch passing.

12. Boat, Vehicles and passageways manner/ courtesy

- A) Basic rule: "Make way for a senior quickly, quietly and without confusion".
- B) When embarking boats or going out of vehicles: Senior first and Junior last.

13. Salutes

- A) Maybe rendered left hands by Naval Personnel when right hand is encumbered.
- B) Air Force and Army never salute left-handed.
- C) In the Navy salutes are not given when uncovered, (unless it will cause embarrassment).

C. CEREMONIES

1. Colors

- A) 0800H termed as morning colors- the National Ensign and Union Jack are hoisted at 0800H.
- B) Sunset- sunset colors- the National Ensign and Union jack are lowered at sunset.
- C) Jack Flag are hoisted on the bow.
- D) Five 5 minutes before hosting mowring preparatory flag is hoisted and lowered during hoisting and lowering of National Ensign and Jack Flag.

2. Shifting colors

- A) Colors are hauled down smartly everytime the ship gate underway and hoist a steaming national ensign.
- B) BMOW or POW whistles once and announces in PA system "Shift colors".

- C) And vice versa If ship moors her first line to a pier or anchor touches ground, steaming ensign is handed down smartly and hoist the national ensign jack flag upon whistles of QM, POW, or BM

3. Half masting the ensign and jack

- a) It is a tribute to the dead.
- b) Flag is first closed -up and then lowered at half masts.
- c) When lowering , first closed - up and lowered.

4. Dipping

- a. Merchant vessels salute navy ships by lowering his colors to half mast.
- b. Navy ships return salutes merchant vessels when she is 90 deg. (abeam) from merchant vessels by lowering the ensign to the half mast for few seconds raises her flag.
- c. after which merchant vessels raises her flag.

5. Commission Pennant

- a. Hoisted at the after truck or in most conspicuous point of hoist.
- b. Should be flown from time of commission of vessel until she goes out of commission, except,
 - 1) When the captain raises a personal flag or a
 - 2) Command flag
 - 3) Half / mastered when co dies.
 - 4) Decommissioned, last co keeps comision penantly.

C. Ceremonies

- 1. Gun salutes- friendly gestures.
 - a. rendered for Presidential of US/PHILIPPINES and head of foreign states.
 - b. rendered during independent day and memorial day.
 - c. Fired at 5 seconds interval.
- 2. Manning the rail
 - a. Men are stationed along rails and superstructures of ships.
 - b. Men do not salute
 - c. One whistles (face starboard) two whistle (face port) followed by another one whistle "Attention", whistle "Carry on".
 - d. Rendered to the President of Head foreign states.
- 3. Dressing and Full Dressing
 - a. Dressing ship - National Ensign is flown from flag staff, and usually from each masthead.
 - b. Full - dress - a rainbow of signal flags are added, from 0800H to sunset.
 - c. Ships underway do not dress or full dress.
- 4. passing Honor
 - a. Men may not be in ranks.
 - b. All hands on decks salute.

c. Signal:

- 1) Attention to starboard- one (1) blast
Attention to port - two (2) blast
- 2) Hand salute : one (1) blast
- 3) End salute : two(2) blasts
- 4) Carry on : three (3) blasts

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- c. Rendered to official and officers embarked in ships passing close aboard.

5. Side Boys -

- a. Rendered to important person or officers who on board or leave ship.
- b. From 0800H to sunset (Normal occasion)
- c. Enlisted women may also act as side boys
- d. Number of side boys:
 1. 2 side boys - Lt
 2. 2 side boys - Lcdr
 3. 4 side boys - Capt/Cdr
 4. 6 side boys - Flag ranks
 - 8 side boys - President/
-Sec/Cofs

6. Change of Command -

- a. All hands fall-in in dressed uniform
- b. Both officers will inspect crew and ship

7. Ship Launching -

- a. There will be flag on band, sponsors who will christen the
- b. Reception follows for distinguished visitors
- c. Selected men are allowed to ride ship as ship or submarines slides and waterborne

8. Commissioning the ship -

- a. Entire crew is present in dress uniform
- b. National Ensign, Jack and commissioned pennant will be hoisted
- c. CO, assumed command, EX-O set the watch: BMOW of POW pass the word "On the deck 1st Section, "OOD commence official log
- d. Reception follows (special chow)

9. Decommissioning vessel -

- a. entire crew is present and in dress uniform
- b. CO reads decommissioning orders
- c. National Ensign, jack and commission pennant will be hauled down
- d. National Ensign and jack given to CO by raffle

10. Crossing the line (Imaginary Equator) (Zero Latitude)

- a. Pollywogs - those who have not crossed the equator are given initiation by shellbacks - those who have crossed the line
- b. Regardless of rank, shellbacks take over the ship and initiate pollywogs

c. Pollywogs are given certificate signed by "King Neptune"