

APPENDIX O

MIDSHIPMAN FIRST CLASS AVIATION ASHORE CRUISE GUIDE

This document provides general guidelines and instructions for your Midshipman First Class Ashore Aviation Summer Cruise. The areas delineated should be considered a starting point through which you can obtain knowledge of the overall mission of the aviation community. This will include the duties and responsibilities of the officers and enlisted personnel within normal daily operations.

While assigned to the Ashore Aviation Cruise, you will complete the following activities on an observation/participation basis, with emphasis on maximum participation whenever possible or practicable. You should receive familiarization from each of the following officers and departments:

1. Check in: Notify Administrative Officer and arrange for CO/XO courtesy calls.
2. Executive Officer welcome aboard courtesy call.
3. Commanding Officer welcome aboard courtesy call.
4. Meet with Operations Officer for operations brief, assignment to combat aircrew and meet with sponsor/running mate. Note: Each midshipman will be assigned an officer running mate who will be responsible for overseeing your progress and timely execution of the training syllabus.
5. Meet with Squadron Safety/NATOPS Officer. Schedule squadron safety brief, check out a NATOPS manual and a copy of Squadron Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). The OPNAV 3710.7 manual should be reviewed during the safety brief. Also, review all aspects of hangar bay, workspace and ground aircraft safety.
6. Meet with Pilot/NFO Training Officers. Pick up training syllabus books. Become familiar with pilot/NFO training.
7. Meet with Squadron Maintenance Officer. Become familiar with Maintenance Department mission and organization.
8. Visit PR shop (paraloft) to make arrangements for flight gear issue. Become familiar with survival equipment. Knowledge of its use should precede flight gear issue.
9. Meet with Senior Watch Officer. Become familiar with Squadron Duty Officer duties. Stand duty as assistant SDO or SDO (Under Instruction). Midshipmen should stand at least two SDO watches.
10. Fly in as many evolutions as possible during the time assigned to the squadron. You should make every attempt to complete any observer PQS qualification as well as the items listed below:
 - a. Attend flight/mission brief.
 - b. Attend weather brief and file flight plan.

- c. Review VIDS/MAFS prior to preflight.
- d. Preflight the aircraft in accordance with NATOPS with different members of the flight crew.
- e. Flight evolutions: During flight evolutions, you will observe and familiarize yourself with as many of the tactical aspects of each aircrew position in the aircraft as practicable. The number and type of aircrew positions will vary with type of aircraft and are not limited to those discussed below.

(1) Cockpit/Flight station:

- (a) Sit in cockpit/flight station and observe a takeoff and landing (if practicable).
- (b) Listen to radio communications (ATC and tactical comms).
- (c) Observe the close working relationship among the crew members (a scheduled training flight or PMCF would be an excellent opportunity to observe flight operations).
- (d) Observe tactical flight procedures during a tactical mission.
- (e) Discuss procedures observed with the flight crew during post-flight or when practicable during the flight.
- (f) Items for discussion: Tactical display (where applicable), flight director system, automatic flight control system, flight and engine monitoring instrumentation, and emergency procedures.

(2) Navigation/communication:

- (a) Observe preparation of navigation charts and logs.
- (b) Observe tactical navigation procedures.
- (c) Discuss the use of computers for mission information management, record keeping and mission workload distribution among flight crew.
- (d) Items for discussion: UHF, VHF, HF radio and data link operation, comm selector panel, inertial, omega, celestial, doppler, GPS navigation, and emergency procedures.

(3) Tactical:

- (a) Observe weapons/sonobuoy capabilities, management, and deployment.
- (b) Observe tactical problem, programming and use of aircraft sensor and weapons systems.

(c) Items for discussion: Tracking and targeting techniques, tactical coordination between crew members, radar, ESM, IRDS, and MAD equipment use, prosecution and attack techniques, and battle damage assessment (BDA).

(d) Observe post mission debrief and analysis.

(4) Crew Chief/Flight Engineer/Flight Technician:

(a) Observe preflight areas/techniques.

(b) Discuss weight and balance figures and computations for various aircraft configurations.

(c) Observe normal duties as well as troubleshooting procedures on various equipment when the need arises.

(d) Observe aircraft fueling and turnaround procedures.

In addition to being afforded the opportunity to fly as often as possible with squadron flight crews, you should also become familiar with other areas in the squadron organization that contribute directly to the overall mission of Naval Aviation. It is essential to your training that the following areas and activities should be visited, evolutions observed, and briefs obtained with appropriate signatures obtained. Allow sufficient time for thorough familiarization in each area listed. These activities should be completed during non-flying time when your running mate is involved with his/her ground duties.

1. Attend squadron all officer meetings (AOM).
2. Arrange for courtesy call with Command Master Chief.
3. Meet with squadron Administration Officer.
4. Meet with squadron Legal Officer.
5. Meet with Human Relations Officer.
6. Meet with Public Affairs Officer.
7. Meet with First Lieutenant.
8. Meet with the Command Career Counselor.
9. Meet with Security Manager.
10. Meet with the CMS and Communications Officer.
11. Meet with the Intelligence Officer.
12. Meet with the Tactics Officer.
13. Visit Maintenance Admin.

14. Visit Maintenance Control.
15. Visit the Tool room.
16. Visit Quality Assurance.
17. Meet with the AV/ARM Division Officer.
18. Visit each AV/ARM division work center.
19. Meet with the Aircraft Division Officer.
20. Visit each Aircraft division work center.
21. Meet with the Line Division Officer.
22. Visit the Line division.
23. Visit the local AIMD.

One of the most beneficial activities for you while attached to a squadron is to talk to the junior officers about their experiences. They are in the position you will soon enter. Any information gathered now will pay dividends later on as a commissioned officer.

At the conclusion of your Ashore Aviation Cruise, you should revisit the squadron Commanding Officer for a check-out brief and farewell call. Remember, your training will be conducted under the direction of the squadron CO. You should be given every opportunity to work, stand watches, and perform duties under competent guidance. This guidance will afford you every chance to exercise initiative in fulfilling your duties. The profits that you realize from this training will be directly proportional to the skill, interest, imagination and enthusiasm you display. This guidebook is only a framework upon which to build your introduction into the aviation community.