



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
1000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 5030.8A  
N8F  
8 February 2011

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 5030.8A

From: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF NAVAL VESSELS  
AND BATTLEFORCE SHIP COUNTING

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. 231  
(b) OPNAVINST 4700.8H  
(c) OPNAVINST 4770.5G

Encl: (1) Combatant Ship Category  
(2) Auxiliary Ship Category  
(3) Combatant Craft Category  
(4) Support Craft Category  
(5) Special Instructions

1. Purpose. To identify naval ship categories and classifications contained in enclosures (1) through (4) and issue guidance for establishing the official counting procedures of Navy battleforce ships. Enclosure (5) provides special instructions for the application of letter prefixes and symbols in ship classifications.

2. Cancellation. SECNAVINST 5030.8.

3. Policy

a. Battleforce Inventory. Battleforce ships are commissioned United States ship (USS) warships capable of contributing to combat operations, or a United States naval ship (USNS) that contributes directly to Navy warfighting or support missions.

b. Battleforce Counting Procedures. An accurate battleforce count is necessary to support the reporting requirements in reference (a). The battleforce ship count will only include combat capable ships that contribute to warfighting missions, specified combat support missions, or service support missions. Specifically, the battleforce ship count will include:

(1) Ship types listed in enclosure (1) that are classified as "Active," "Military Sealift Command (MSC)," "Naval Fleet Auxiliary Force (NFAF)," "Naval Reserve Force," or "MSC Special Mission" with the following exceptions:

(a) MSC ships assigned a reduced operating status of 45 days or less may be counted on a case-by-case basis as recommended by the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) with Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) approval.

(b) Naval Reserve Force active (NRFA) ships are mobilization forces, category A assets, and are ships that are a part of the battleforce. NRFA ships have a reduced or skeleton crew of active duty personnel assigned to provide training of assigned reservists for limited operations and maintenance.

(2) All other craft and auxiliaries listed in enclosures (2) through (4) are not included in the battleforce ship count.

(3) Ships entering and leaving the battleforce inventory.

(a) Battleforce ships are counted as part of the Navy's active inventory effective upon acceptance by the Navy's accepting authority, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (COMNAVSEASYS COM). Upon acceptance, the CNO will be notified immediately via naval message per reference (b).

(b) Ships will no longer be counted as part of the battleforce inventory effective upon a ship's official date of decommissioning, deactivation, or inactivation in the case of nuclear vessels. The CNO will be notified of a ship's decommissioning, deactivation, or inactivation via naval message per reference (c).

#### 4. Responsibilities

##### a. CNO

(1) Maintain the battleforce ship inventory.

(2) Enter vessels into the battleforce ship inventory and the naval vessel register (NVR) upon delivery to a COMNAVSEASYS COM representative.

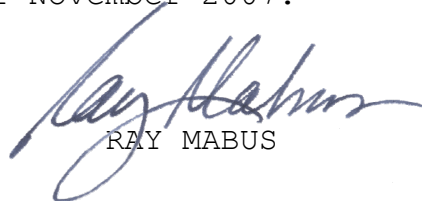
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(3) Delete vessels from the battleforce ship inventory upon the ship's official date of decommissioning, deactivation, or inactivation.

b. COMNAVSEASYSCOM. To support the CNO's daily ship count, notify CNO, via naval message, within 24 hours of a ship's delivery announcing acceptance by the U.S. Navy. Distribution should include Standard Naval Distribution List (SNDL) address "CNO WASHINGTON DC//N1/N2/N6/N3/N4/N43/N8/N8F/N80/NXX," copy "COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA//N01F/N3/N4/N8//" and "COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N00F/N3/N4/N8//." "NXX" represents the respective Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) resource and platform sponsor.

c. Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and Commander, Pacific Fleet. Per reference (c), notify CNO via naval message when the ship has been decommissioned, deactivated, or inactivated.

5. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per SECNAV Manual 5210.1 of November 2007.



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COMBATANT SHIP CATEGORY

1. Warship Classification. Any commissioned ship built or armed for naval combat

a. Aircraft Carrier. All ships designed primarily for the purpose of conducting combat operations by aircraft which engage in attacks against airborne, surface, sub-surface, and shore targets.

Conventional Take Off and Landing Aircraft Carriers  
Multi-purpose Aircraft Carrier  
(nuclear-powered) CVN

b. Surface Combatant. Surface ships that are designed primarily to engage in attacks against airborne, surface, subsurface, and shore targets.

Cruisers  
Guided Missile Cruiser CG

Destroyers  
Guided Missile Destroyer DDG

Frigates  
Guided Missile Frigate FFG

Littoral Combat Ship  
Littoral Combat Ship LCS

c. Submarine. All self-propelled submersible types regardless of whether employed as combatant, auxiliary, or research and development vehicle, which have at least a residual combat capability.

Attack Submarines  
Submarine (nuclear-powered) SSN

Ballistic Missile Submarines  
Ballistic Missile Submarine  
(nuclear-powered) SSBN

Guided Missile Submarines  
Guided Missile Submarine  
(nuclear-powered)

SSGN

d. Amphibious Warfare. All ships having organic capability for amphibious assault and which have characteristics enabling long duration operations on the high seas.

Amphibious Helicopter and Landing Craft Carriers

Amphibious Assault Ship  
(general purpose) LHA

Amphibious Assault Ship  
(multi-purpose) LHD

Amphibious Transport Dock LPD

Landing Craft Carriers

Dock Landing Ship LSD

2. Other Combatant Classifications. Ships which have the capability to provide support to fleet units.

a. Mine Warfare Type Ships. All ships whose primary function is mine warfare.

Mine Countermeasures Ships

Mine Countermeasures Ship MCM

b. Combat Logistics. Naval fleet auxiliary ships which have the capability to provide underway replenishment to fleet units. Auxiliary ships that are operated by MSC will have a "T-" designation before the classification (i.e., T-AE).

Underway Replenishment

Ammunition Ship AE

Combat Store Ship AFS

Oiler AO

Fast Combat Support Ship AOE

Dry Cargo and Ammunition Ship AKE

c. Fleet Support. A group of ships designed to operate in the open ocean to provide general support to combatant forces.

<u>Command</u>	
Command Ship	LCC
<u>Material Support</u>	
Submarine Tender	AS
<u>Sea Base Connector</u>	
Joint High Speed Vessel	JHSV
<u>Surveillance</u>	
Surveillance	AGOS
<u>Salvage Ships</u>	
Salvage Ships	ARS
<u>Fleet Ocean Tugs</u>	
Fleet Ocean Tugs	ATF
<u>Seabasing Support*</u>	
Mobile Landing Platform	MLP
Dry Cargo/Ammunition	T-AKE
* Note: These ships are normally assigned as part of the Maritime Prepositioning Force, but are available for other fleet support missions	

AUXILIARY SHIP CATEGORY

Auxiliary Classification. Naval ships designed to provide support to combatant ships and other naval operations.

Support Type Ships. A grouping of ships designed to provide general support to either combatant forces or shore-based establishments. Those auxiliary ships that provide support to naval operations but are not involved with combatant forces, Navy warfighting, or support missions, and are not part of the battleforce inventory are listed below. Auxiliary ships that are operated by MSC will have a "T-" designation before the classification (i.e., T-AE).

Other Auxiliaries

Auxiliary Crane Ship	ACS
Missile Range Instrumentation Ship	AGM
Oceanographic Research Ship	AGOR
Surveying Ship	AGS
Hospital Ship	AH
Cargo Ship	AK
Vehicle Cargo Ship	AKR
Transport Oiler	AOT
Cable Repairing Ship	ARC
Aviation Logistic Support Ship	AVB

COMBATANT CRAFT CATEGORY

Combatant Craft Classification. With the exception of patrol coastal ships, combatant craft are non-commissioned vessels specifically designed for combat roles and are not maintained on the NVR.

1. Amphibious Warfare Type Craft. All amphibious craft that have the organic capacity for amphibious assault and are intended to operate principally in coastal waters or may be carried aboard larger units.

Landing Craft

Landing Craft, Air Cushion	LCAC
Landing Craft, Mechanized	LCM
Landing Craft, Personnel, Light	LCPL
Landing Craft, Utility	LCU
Amphibious Warping Tug	LWT
Side Loadable Warping Tug	SLWT

Special Warfare Craft

Mark (MK) V Special Operations Craft	MK V SOC
Naval Special Warfare (NSW) Rigid-Hull Inflatable Boat	NSW RHIB
SEAL Delivery Vehicle	SDV
Special Operations Craft - Riverine	SOC-R

2. Patrol Combatant. Combatants whose mission may extend beyond coastal duties and whose characteristics include adequate endurance and sea keeping to provide a capability for operations on the high seas without support.

Patrol Ships

Patrol Coastal	PC
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SUPPORT CRAFT CATEGORY

Support Craft Classification. Support craft are non-commissioned vessels designed to provide support to combatant ships and other naval operations but are not involved with combatant forces, Navy warfighting, or support missions, and are not part of the battleforce inventory.

1. Service Type Craft. A grouping of Navy-subordinated craft (including non-self-propelled) designed to provide general support to either combatant forces or shore-based establishments.

Dry Docks (Non-self-propelled)

Small Auxiliary Floating Dry Dock	AFDL
Medium Auxiliary Floating Dry Dock	AFDM
Medium Auxiliary Repair Dry Dock	ARDM
Yard Floating Dry Dock	YFD

Tugs (Self-propelled)

Large Harbor Tug	YTB
Small Harbor Tug	YTL

Lighters and Barges

Open Lighter	YC
Aircraft Transportation Lighter	YCV
Covered Lighter	YFN
Lighter (Special purpose)	YFNX
Large Covered Lighter	YFNB
Gasoline Barge	YOGN
Fuel Oil Barge	YON

Oil Storage Barge	YOS
Water Barge	YWN
<u>Other Craft (self-propelled)</u>	
Ferry Boat or Launch	YFB
Patrol Craft, Training	YP
Seaplane Wrecking Derrick	YSD
Torpedo Trials Craft	YTT
2. <u>Non-self-propelled</u>	
Barracks Craft	APL
Floating Crane	YD
Diving Tender	YDT
Dry Dock Companion Craft	YFND
Floating Power Barge	YFP
Salvage Lift Craft, Light	YLC
Floating Workshop	YR
Repair and Berthing Barge	YRB
Repair, Berthing and Messing Barge	YRBM
Floating Dry Dock Workshop (Hull)	YRDH
Floating Dry Dock Workshop Machine	YRDM
Radiological Repair Barge	YRR
3. <u>Unclassified Miscellaneous</u>	
Unclassified Miscellaneous Unit	IX

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The objectives of the grouping of categories and subcategories are to provide a means for valid comparisons and accounting of naval forces.
2. Letter prefixes shall be used in conjunction with classification symbols, as follows:
  - a. T - to indicate that a government-owned or bareboat-chartered ship is assigned to Commander, MSC as a type commander.
  - b. F - to indicate that a ship is being constructed for a foreign government.
3. The letter "N", when used as the last letter of a ship classification symbol, denotes nuclear propulsion. When used as the last letter of a service craft classification, it indicates a non-self-propelled version of a similar self-propelled service craft.
4. Parentheses shall not be used to separate any letters in classification symbols.
5. Hyphens shall not be used in the hull number of any ship.
6. Periods shall not be used to separate any letters in a ship's name.