

ROUTINE

R 041535Z MAR 03

FM COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORFOLK VA//N36//

TO ALL SHIPS AND FLTUNITS PRESENT HAMPTON ROADS VA  
AIG 9987

INFO CNO WASHINGTON DC//N45//  
COMLANTFLT NORFOLK VA//N46//  
COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//JJJ//  
COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA//JJJ//  
COMSC WASHINGTON DC//JJJ//  
COMSECONDFLT//JJJ//  
COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//  
COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//  
COMNAVSURFLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//  
COMNAVREG NE GROTON CT//JJJ//  
COMNAVREG NW SEATTLE WA//N46//  
COMNAVREG PEARL HARBOR HI//N423//  
COMNAVREG SE JACKSONVILLE FL//JJJ//  
COMNAVREG SW SAN DIEGO CA//N45//  
COMSCLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//  
COGARD MSO HAMPTON ROADS VA//JJJ//  
LANTNAVFACENGCOM NORFOLK VA//EV//  
NAVOSHENVTRACEN NORFOLK VA//JJJ//  
NAVPETOFF ALEXANDRIA VA//JJJ//  
NAVPETOFF FT BELVOIR VA//JJJ//  
NFESC PORT HUENEME CA//424//

UNCLAS

MSGID/GENADMIN/COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORFOLK VA//

SUBJ/ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENT REPORTING AND RESPONSE//

REF/A/MSG/COMLANTFLT NORFOLK VA/121959ZFEB2003//

AMPN/REF A IS COMLANTFLT MESSAGE ON SPECIAL INCIDENT REPORTING//

NARR/COMNAVREG MIDLANT AOR INCLUDES THE STATES OF PA, MD, DE, WV,  
VA, AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA INCLUDING WATERS TO 12 NM FROM SHORE.//  
POC/MAUREEN CONNORS/NOSC REP/COMNAVREG MIDLANT N36/LOC:NORFOLK VA  
/TEL:757-322-3064/TEL:DSN 262-3064/TEL:CELL 757-288-4099  
/TEL:PAGER 888-958-4322/EMAIL:MECONNORS@CMAR.NAVY.MIL//

RMKS/1. IN SUPPORT OF REF A, COMNAVREG MIDLANT WOULD LIKE TO  
MAINTAIN AND FURTHER RAISE THE AWARENESS WITHIN THE REGIONAL  
COMMUNITY REGARDING THE NEED FOR TIMELY REPORTING OF INCIDENTS WITH  
THE POTENTIAL FOR IMPACT TO THE ENVIRONMENT OR PUBLIC SAFETY.  
PROMPT VOICE AND MESSAGE REPORTING WILL ENSURE POTENTIAL LOCAL  
IMPACTS CAN BE MINIMIZED AND ADDRESSED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

2. COMNAVREG MIDLANT MAINTAINS A "REPORT ALL SPILLS" POLICY. ALL  
RELEASES OF OIL OR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES, EXCEPT THOSE FROM POVS THAT  
DO NOT REACH STORM DRAINS OR SURFACE WATERS, SHALL BE REPORTED

IMMEDIATELY TO THE SHORE FACILITY VIA THAT STATION'S ESTABLISHED PROTOCOLS AND BY NAVY MESSAGE AS SOON AS RELEVANT DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE. PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS BY SITREP IS PRUDENT IF THE FULL SPILL REPORT IS TO BE DELAYED. ESTABLISHED REPORTING PROCESSES DESCRIBED IN LOCAL INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD ALWAYS BE THE PRIMARY REPORTING CHAIN. FURTHER, ANY INCIDENT WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL REGULATORY SCRUTINY SHOULD BE REPORTED TO COMNAVREG MIDLANT PARALLEL TO REPORTING UP THE CHAIN OF COMMAND. FOR ALL INCIDENTS WITHIN THE COMNAVREG MIDLANT AOR, PRIMARY REGIONAL POC FOR ALL ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS IS THE COMNAVREG MIDLANT REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER (ROC) AT (757) 322-2609. THIS REPRESENTS A CHANGE TO PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENT TO REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE NOSC. WHEN IN DOUBT REGARDING POTENTIAL IMPACTS, A REPORT TO THE ROC IS PRUDENT. THE ROC WATCH OFFICER WILL SCREEN REPORTS FOR FURTHER DISSEMINATION UP THE CHAIN, INCLUDING THE NOSC.

3. NAVY COMMANDS ARE REMINDED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS ARE OFTEN HIGH VISIBILITY ISSUES, WITH SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL FOR NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT, READINESS, SCARCE FINANCIAL RESOURCES, AND NAVY PUBLIC IMAGE. ALL DUE CARE AND RESPECT MUST BE EXERCISED WHEN DEALING WITH THE CONCERNED PUBLIC AND NON-NAVY OFFICIALS.

4. ALL SHORE FACILITIES MUST BE AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY OF ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS, AND THE LIMITATIONS OF NAVY SHIPS, INCLUDING MSC VESSELS, AND AIRCRAFT TO RESPOND FULLY TO ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES. SHORESIDE COMMANDERS SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SUPPORT NAVY ASSETS IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHORE ACTIVITY, WHETHER OR NOT THAT SHORE ACTIVITY IS PROVIDING HOST SERVICES.

5. INCIDENTS AT NON-NAVY PORTS/INSTALLATIONS OR IN PRIVATE SHIPYARDS PRESENT UNIQUE LEGAL CIRCUMSTANCES, AT TIMES REQUIRING CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE COMNAVREG MIDLANT ENVIRONMENTAL ATTORNEY. NAVY VESSELS EXPERIENCING A DISCHARGE OR REGULATORY SCRUTINY OUTSIDE OF THE AOR OF A NAVY SHORE STATION SHALL IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE ROC AT (757) 322-2609. THIS IS A CHANGE TO PREVIOUS PROCEDURES WHICH REQUIRED NOTIFICATION TO THE NOSC DIRECTLY.

6. AS ALWAYS, THE NOSC STANDS READY TO ASSIST IN ANY ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENT. NOSC SUPPORT CAN BE OBTAINED VIA THE ROC, OR BY DIRECT CONTACT WITH NOSC AT POC NUMBERS ABOVE. FURTHER INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, COPIES OF REFERENCES AND MESSAGES, SAMPLE SPILL REPORT MESSAGE, AS WELL AS INVESTIGATIVE PROTOCOLS CAN BE FOUND ON THE COMNAVREG MIDLANT WEBSITE AT WWW.CNRMA.NAVY.MIL, UNDER THE INSTRUCTIONS SECTION (5090) AND THE NOSC SECTION. ALL COMMANDS SHOULD VERIFY AT LEAST QUARTERLY THAT THEIR CDO BINDER CONTAINS THE MOST RECENT VERSION OF THE SPILL MESSAGE TEMPLATE AND PROPER NOTIFICATION NUMBERS. FOR INCIDENTS WARRANTING A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY, THE RECOMMENDED FORMAT IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE NOSC SECTION OF THE WEBSITE ABOVE.

7. MANAGING RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS IN POPULATED AREAS REQUIRES EXTENSIVE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH LOCAL AND STATE OFFICIALS. COMNAVREG MIDLANT STAFF IS STANDING BY TO PROVIDE LIAISON SERVICES WITH CONCERNED AGENCIES, THE MEDIA, AND INDIVIDUALS

WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. REQUEST THAT ALL NAVY COMMANDS IN THE AOR  
MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF ATTENTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND PUBLIC SAFETY ASPECTS OF INCIDENTS. ABOVE ALL, FOR  
EVENTUALITIES NOT COVERED IN OTHER GUIDANCE, GOOD HEADWORK AND  
COMMON SENSE WILL DICTATE WHETHER AN INCIDENT IS A REPORTABLE  
SITUATION.//

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