

NAVAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

NAVY – came from a latin word “NAVES” which means ships.

1. SALUTE: normally given with the right hand

- when right hand is encumbered, left hand could be used
- not given when uncovered

2. HONORS TO THE FLAG

a. Colors – paying honors to the flag; hoisted in the morning and lowered in the afternoon.

1) For ships not underway and Shore Commands:

a) 0800H – Morning Colors

b) Sunset – Evening Colors

c) Procedures:

(1) Five minutes before colors, first call is sounded (announce as “first call to colors)

(2) 0800H or time of sunset – “attention to colors” is sounded and passed

- National Ensign is raised/lowered at the flag gaff.

(3) At the completion of music – “carry on” is passed

(4) Jack flag is also raised/lowered

2) For ships underway: National Ensign is raised/lowered at the mast.
- the jack flag is not raised

a) Shifting colors:

(1) When ship leaves the pier or weights her anchor: Shifts the National Ensign from the Flag gaff to mast. The national Ensign is then called steaming ensign. Jack Flag is lowered at the same time.

When is it done? When the last mooring line leaves the pier or when the anchor is aweigh, a long blast of whistle is sounded that signal for the shifting.

(2) When ship arrives at the pier or anchors: Shifts the National from mast to flag gaff. Jack flag is raised at the same time. When is it done? When the first mooring line reaches the pier or when the anchor is dropped, a long blast of whistle is sounded that signal for the shifting.

b) Honors Rendered by Merchant Ships (DIPPING): Merchant ships salute navy ships by dipping their ensign. Navy Ships respond by lowering the steaming ensign to half mast for a few seconds then close it up. Afterwhich, the merchant ship may raise again her flag.

c) Passing Honors: honors exchange between two ships or boats when comes close aboard:

(1) Distance:

Ships: 600 yards

Boats: 400 yards

(2) Who renders?

Ships/boats whose Commanding Officer/Boat Captain is junior in rank renders passing honors to Commanding Officer/Boat Captain Senior in rank.

3) Procedure:

a) Attention is sounded at the “Junior” ship/boat using the following:

1 long Blast – attention to starboard (the ship/boat to be honored is at the starboard)

2 long Blasts – attention to port (the ship/boat to be honored is at the portside)

* ship/boat being honored does the same after such

b) Hand Salute – one (1) long blast

* Ship/boat being honored does the same after such

c) Carry on – 3 long blasts rendered by ship/boat being honored

d) End of salute of ship rendering honors – 2 long blasts

OTHER HONORS:

1) The arrival/departure of the ship’s Captain is usually announced at the PA system

Ex: “MANGYAN, arriving/aboard/ashore

- He is always piped when he boards or leaves the ship

2) Nobody is allowed to sit in the Captain;s Chair at the bridge unless offered.

3) In boarding the ship, Junior goes first. In disembarking, senior goes first.

4) Navy Officers eat in the place called “Wardroom”

5) Side boys are detailed in the quarter deck to welcome a distinguished visitor,

CAPT AND BELOW – 4 side boys

COMMO TO REAR ADMIRAL – 6 side boys

VICE ADMIRAL UP – 8 side boys

3. BRIDGE CUSTOMS:

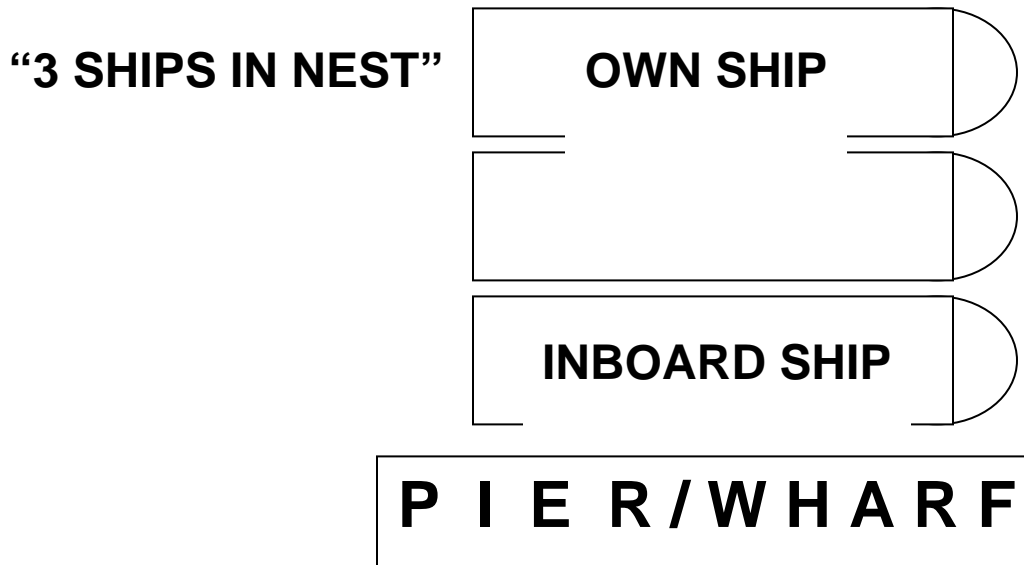
- Bridge is the center of operations of the ship while underway. If CO is present, appropriate greetings must be rendered.

4. PROCEDURE IN ENTERING/LEAVING THE SHIP:

a. At the gangway – if the National ensign is flying, turn aft before getting aboard and salute the ensign. Upon boarding, before striking the ship's deck, render another salute to the OOD or his/her representative by saying "Request permission to come aboard Sir." For disembarking, same is done in a reverse manner.

b. When boarding in group – only the one in charge shall render salute.

5. CROSSING THE NEST: Usually done when your ship is in nest with other ships:



Boarding: Salute the colors and OOD of inboard ship
Say "Request Permission to cross" until you reach your own ship

Leaving: Salute your OOD and the National Ensign
Say "Request Permission to cross" until you reach your own ship
Do not salute the OOD and the National Ensign of ships between your ship and the ship alongside the pier
Salute your OOD and the National Ensign of the ship alongside the pier.

6. HALF MASTING – tribute to the dead

- when raising the flag is first closed up the lowered at half mast
- when lowering, closed up first then lowered.

BASIC RULE FOR BOATS AND VEHICLES:
“SENIORS ARE LAST IN, FIRST OUT”

DIVINE SERVICES:

- Church pennant is flown at the mast
- All persons within the area are required to uncover including watches

SICK BAY:

- Uncover when entering

OFFICERS AND CPO’S COUNTRY: Includes staterooms, mess hall for CPO’s, wardroom and living spaces

- EP are not allowed to enter unless on official business.
- NOT used as passageways or shortcuts

AT THE MESS HALL:

- uncover when entering