



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350

and
United States Coast Guard
Washington, DC 20593

IN REPLY REFER TO
OPNAVINST 5450.211
COMDTINST 5450.1
OP-605E1/G-OMR

21 MAR 1984

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.211
COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 5450.1

From: Chief of Naval Operations
Commandant of the Coast Guard

Subj: U.S. Maritime Defense Zone (MDZ) Commanders; designation of

Ref: (a) Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of
Transportation and the Department of the Navy
Designating Coast Guard Area Commanders as Maritime
Defense Zone Commanders

1. Purpose. To designate U.S. Coast Guard Area Commanders as U.S. Maritime Defense Zone Commanders and prescribe initial planning actions.

2. Background. The Review of Coast Guard Wartime Tasking, a report approved by the Navy and Coast Guard (NAVIGARD) Board in March 1981, described the Coast Guard's functioning command, control, and communications system and its daily operations involving a broad spectrum of defense related missions in the coastal area. Subsequently, the NAVIGARD Board commissioned a study to thoroughly examine the concept of assigning Coast Guard Area Commanders the role of U.S. Maritime Defense Zone Commanders, responsible to the fleet commanders for planning, coordinating and conducting U.S. coastal defense. In October 1982, the NAVIGARD Board approved a study recommendation that the Maritime Defense Zone concept be implemented immediately for planning and coordination, with specific resource requirements to be developed and prepared for joint service budget submissions during a MDZ phase-in period. The Maritime Defense Zone Study document has been distributed separately to affected commands as a guide for determining details of MDZ organization, mission requirements, functions, responsibilities and resource needs.

3. Discussion. There is no intent in reference (a) or in this instruction to change the peacetime authorities, responsibilities or priorities of the Secretary of Transportation, Secretary of the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations or Commandant of the Coast Guard.

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4. Action

a. Commanders, Coast Guard Atlantic and Pacific Area are designated Commanders, U.S. Maritime Defense Zone Atlantic and Pacific, reporting directly to Commanders in Chief, Atlantic and Pacific Fleet for matters involving coastal defense of the United States.

b. Upon assignment of MDZ planning staffs, MDZ Commanders will use the completed study document as a guide to determine specific details of MDZ task organization, mission requirements, functions/responsibilities, and to develop a MDZ Operation Order (OPORDER).

c. Commanders in Chief, Atlantic and Pacific Fleet will coordinate with respective MDZ Commanders to develop intelligence support requirements for conducting the MDZ mission.

d. Commanders in Chief, Atlantic and Pacific Fleet will implement the transfer of responsibility for U.S. coastal defense to Maritime Defense Zone Commanders as soon as practicable.

e. MDZ Commanders will continue to perform their peacetime responsibilities under priorities assigned by the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard.


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