



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
COMMANDER MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND  
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WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20398-5540

Canc frp: Jul 03

REFER TO:

COMSCNOTE 2013  
N3/5  
3 September 2002

### COMSC NOTICE 2013

Subj: EMPLOYMENT AND SCHEDULING OF MOBILE SEALIFT OPERATIONS  
CENTER VANS

Ref: (a) COMSCINST 2000.2, MSC Communications Policy and Procedures Manual  
(CPPM)

1. Purpose. To provide interim guidance for the proper employment and scheduling of Mobile Sealift Operations Centers (MSOC).

2. Discussion. The MSOC program consists of two main components: (a) managed, modular equipment; and, (b) a complete containerized system housed in International Standard Organization (ISO) vans. The modular equipment includes all the components and systems needed to support operations in ports not requiring the full support of the entire van. This notice focuses entirely on the van portion of the MSOC program.

#### 3. Policy

a. In the past, there has been a requirement for the Director, Operations and Plans (COMSC N3/5) to approve the use of deploying vans in order to ensure availability of assets for exercises and contingencies as there were only four MSOC vans in the Military Sealift Command (MSC) inventory to support all Areas of Responsibility (AORs). Now that MSOC vans have been sited in all AORs, the responsibility for the employment of MSOC vans will reside with each of the MSC Area Commanders.

b. MSOC Support Request Forms on page 7-19 of reference (a) are no longer required for the use and movement of MSOC vans, unless the MSOC van deployment involves crossing AOR boundaries. The MSOC Support Request Forms are still valid for submitting requests for modular components of the MSOC program for other than van support.

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c. Vans must be operated by properly trained personnel. Area Commanders should consider the availability of trained personnel prior to deploying MSOC vans. Active Command, Control, Communication & Computer Systems (N6) staff should only be used as a last resort and deployed only as required.

d. Beginning in FY03, Area Commanders will be responsible for allocating the required funds necessary for movement of vans within their respective AORs. Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the Area Commanders will submit a plan of all exercises and projected costs for movement to COMSC N3/5. The funding for all MSOC maintenance will continue to be centrally managed by COMSC N6 (info COMSC N3/5).

#### 4. Responsibilities

##### a. Director, Command, Control, Communication & Computer Services (COMSC N6)

- (1) Serves as configuration manager.
- (2) Maintains capabilities and standards across the fleet of vans.
- (3) Promulgates maintenance guidance.
- (4) Funds maintenance for the MSOC program.
- (5) Supports training readiness for Area Command N6s.

##### b. Director, Operations and Plans (COMSC N3/5)

- (1) Acts as a clearinghouse for MSOC system upgrade requirements (coordinating with N6) by providing operational necessity review.
- (2) Monitors van employment and support of MSC training objectives.
- (3) Deconflicts and prioritizes MSOC van use across AORs when more than one van is required. Maintains ultimate authority and control for vans during all contingency operations.
- (4) Coordinates future siting plan modifications and TPFDDing (Time-Phased Force and Deployment Data) of assets.

c. Area Commanders N3/5

(1) Provides annual projected use report NLT 31 July each year for upcoming fiscal year.

(2) Provides annual actual use report NLT 31 October each year for the previous fiscal year.

(3) In the future, will update “Current Activity” and “Follow-on Activity” on classified Opnotes pages. MSOC vans will appear as assets with ships on pages for each respective AOR. COMSC N31 will notify Area Commanders when this feature is available on Opnotes.

d. Area Commanders N6

(1) Serves as van custodian.

(2) Performs maintenance and repair functions.

(3) Provides local training support to user community.

(4) Provides technical support to deployed vans; actual on-site presence is at the discretion of the Area Commander during deployment.

5. Cancellation Contingency. This notice will remain in effect until reference (a) is revised to reflect the new policy.

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Distribution:

COMSCINST 5215.5

List I (Case A, B, C)

SNDL 41B (MSC Area Commanders)

41C (NFAF East/West)

41D (MSC Offices)

41E (APMC)