

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

010. MISSION OF THE REGIMENT OF MIDSHIPMEN

The mission of the Regiment is to help prepare men and women for successful careers as officers in the maritime service as well as for careers in science, business and industry by providing them with leadership and management opportunities in a structured training environment.

020. OVERVIEW OF THE REGIMENT OF MIDSHIPMEN

The Regiment of Midshipmen is the Academy's leadership and management laboratory. In this organization, students learn, apply and practice leadership and management theory. Learning is accomplished through formal instruction, personal observation and practical application. Much of the formal instruction is done during Regimental Preparatory Training and in Personal Development Class.

Regimental Preparatory Training (**RPT**) is an intensive training period during which new students are readied for life and duty in the Regiment of Midshipmen. During this period students are taught rowing, watchstanding, problem solving and regimental organization. The majority of the training is done by midshipmen in the three upper classes, who themselves undergo an intensive training program in preparation for their demanding duties.

Personal Development (**PD**) Classes are open to all students, but are required for the regimental student. In the **Fourth Class** (freshmen) year, the focus of the class is to help the student make the transition from home and high school to regimental life and college. **Third Class** (sophomores) are introduced to leadership and management theory. **Second Class** (Juniors) are prepared for their upcoming duties of running the Regiment, while **First Class** (Seniors) focus on the transition to industry and the beginning of their working careers.

Informally, the midshipman is constantly observing and experiencing the leadership and management styles of peers, upperclassmen and staff officers. During this process, the student is assimilating those techniques and styles that best fit his/her personality and needs.

Practical application of this training is accomplished during the student's life in the Regiment. It is an organization in which a student starts at an entry-level position and gradually moves up in the chain of command until he/she is in charge. Fourth Class have cleaning duties and stand basic watches. Third Class are assigned as the immediate supervisors of the Fourth Class and are assigned maintenance areas of responsibility. Second Class stand more responsible watches and are accountable for the performance of the assigned underclass watch standers. Also the Second Class conduct a large part of the Fourth Class training. First Class run the regiment, stand the key watches and experience first hand the pressures and demands of being in charge.

The Training Ship "STATE OF MAINE" is the focal point of the Regiment and its primary training aid. All midshipmen regardless of program are familiarized with the ship and assigned areas of responsibility. By learning and maintaining this 500-foot diesel powered vessel, midshipmen learn how to operate and manage a technically complex system.

Consequently, the Regiment is a program that increases accountability and responsibility, as well as privileges, as the student moves up the leadership ladder. It provides each student the opportunity to practice and experience some degree of hands on management. Yet it provides those students who want to develop their skills beyond the standard training program, challenging and demanding top leadership positions, which tax their managerial abilities.

030. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

General License Program Requirements: The Maine Maritime Academy program for license program students places strong emphasis on three areas of performance as follows:

- (1) Academic - qualification for degree
- (2) Practical Training - qualification for the license
- (3) Regimental - qualification for professional and personal growth.

Satisfactory performance in each of these areas, in accordance with established standards, is required for continuation, graduation and the awarding of a Coast Guard License. Unsatisfactory performance in any one of these areas will constitute grounds for dismissal.

Regimental Program Requirements: All bachelor degree students who are in a program which leads to the opportunity to take the "Third's" U.S. Coast Guard license are required to be in the regimental training program and must be members of the Regiment in good standing at the time they sit for their license exam. As per Title 46 CFR Chapter 11 (10-1-86) edition, the minimum period of training shall be three (3) years. Additionally, the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) dictate the completion of all prescribed watches, ship's maintenance, and Personal Development classes.

All other undergraduate degree students may participate in the regimental training program. These bachelor degree students may join at the commencement of their first or second year. Associate degree students must join at the commencement of their first year.

All students are required to complete the Regimental Preparatory Training Program (RPT) prior to entering the Regiment. In addition, all students are required to complete two semesters as a 4/C midshipman. At the discretion of the Commandant, prior military and/or regimental experience may be considered in lieu of these requirements.

Transfer students from another maritime academy to include California, Massachusetts, New York, Texas, US Coast Guard, US Merchant Marine and the US Naval Academies will normally be granted

regimental credit for each semester successfully completed as a regimental student in the aforementioned academies.

040. AUTHORITY FOR AND ADMINISTRATION OF MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY

Maine Maritime Academy is an institution chartered by the Ninetieth Legislature of the State of Maine in 1941. The Charter provides for the governance of the Academy by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor with authority to provide and maintain a nautical school for the instruction of students in the science and practice of navigation and in practical seamanship, steam, diesel and electrical engineering, radio and radio communication, ship operation, ship construction and ship and boat design, provide books, stationary, apparatus and other supplies and equipment needed in the work thereof. The Board may determine their compensation, fix the terms upon which students shall be received and instructed therein and discharged there from, and make all regulations convenient or necessary for the management of said school and provide from time to time for actual sea experience for its students and with such other authority as may be found in the laws of the State of Maine as enacted by the Legislature.

In addition, the Maine Maritime Academy has been officially recognized by, and receives support from, the Federal Government for which compliance with General Order 87 (U.S. Department of Commerce) and a formal agreement, which is executed every three years, is required. The U.S. Maritime Administration is the principal federal agent exercising administrative control over the Academy. In addition, direct relationships exist with the U.S. Coast Guard on matters dealing with the training ship inspections, and reserve commissions for graduates, and with the U.S. Navy for the NROTC unit and for reserve commissions for graduates.

050. STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD ON GOVERNANCE OF MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY

All members of the Academy are free to make recommendations on institutional governance. Representative members are encouraged to participate in the formulation of plans and programs and in the decision-making process to the maximum extent practicable.

All members of the Academy must recognize that the Board of Trustees holds ultimate authority for the governance of the Academy and that this Board has vested in the President authority for the administration of the Academy.

Therefore, all members should strive to present their recommendations to the President or his delegate(s) in a clear and positive fashion. It is the responsibility of Academy members who question decisions that have been made relative to institutional governance to utilize existing channels of appeal.

Any action inconsistent with the standard of conduct prescribed for officers and students in official Academy publications and directives, or which disrupts the normal operation of the institution, will thereby place all individuals actively involved in violation of Academy or civil codes and subject them to all resultant penalties.

Attention is invited to Section 706 of the Department of State, Justice and Commerce, the Judiciary,

and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1970.

060. ADMINISTRATION OF ACADEMY REGULATIONS AND REGIMENTAL MATTERS

The President, as the agent of the Trustees, is the Chief Administrative Officer for the overall administration of the Academy. The Commandant of Midshipmen reports to the President and is responsible for the operation and administration of the Regiment of Midshipmen and for enforcing these regulations. Assisting the Commandant in his/her duties are such officers and staff as shall be assigned by the President to do so.

070. MIDSHIPMAN COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS AND ORDERS

All midshipmen are required to comply with the rules and regulations as set forth in this manual and with all lawful orders and directives issued by higher authority. No statement, or lack of, in these regulations affects the responsibility of every midshipman to respect local, state or federal ordinances, regulations or laws.

The high standard of conduct required of all midshipmen, and as described in this manual, is in keeping with the demands of the seagoing services. A lesser standard may be acceptable in other walks of life, but in the seagoing services, where "sins" of omission or commission could result directly in the loss of life and/or property, a high standard of personal performance is mandatory. Discipline is the basis for good order on board ship, and good order is the direct result of the professional and personal standards of its officers. Therefore, it is not a matter of pride but of necessity that the Maine Maritime Academy requires of its Midshipmen a character of trustworthiness that permits no evasion from self-discipline or responsibility.

Midshipmen are required to keep themselves thoroughly familiar with the regulations contained in this manual and all changes and additions thereto. In addition, all Presidential Orders, Commandant of Midshipmen Orders and the Plans of the Day will have the same effect as the regulations appearing in this manual. Ignorance of the contents of this manual is no excuse. In situations not covered, midshipmen will conduct themselves courteously and in accordance with the customs of the Academy and as common sense and good judgment dictate. If such a situation occurs and prevents any individual midshipman from executing an order given by higher authority, or any regulation or order within the scope of this manual, he/she will report the facts as soon as possible to the authority who issued the order, and to the Commandant of Midshipmen, should the circumstances so warrant.

All faculty, staff and midshipmen have a duty to report all violations of regulations and orders and, equally important, to report all outstanding and exceptional performances by midshipmen (particularly involving the control and direction of other midshipmen).

These regulations are based on the need for the governance of the Regiment of Midshipmen. Every effort will be made to administer the regulations with professionalism and consistency for the protection of all students and for the attainment of the highest standards possible of professional

conduct, personal character and morale within the Regiment.

080. MIDSHIPMAN OATH AND INTERPRETATION

"I, _____, having willingly enrolled as a Midshipman of Maritime Academy, pledge to support the policies and regulations of the Academy; to honorably and with loyalty and integrity persevere through trial and hardship in completing all tasks assigned; and to adhere to the highest standards of conduct befitting the title of "officer".

An oath is a solemn promise that one takes upon oneself. It is more than just a promise, though, for it serves as a guide for all action, not just a specific instance. When students take the Maine Maritime Academy Midshipman Oath, they commit themselves to high standards that have come to be expected of our organization, and our people, and they truly become Midshipmen. Midshipmen are by definition "officers in training". The call to be an officer may earn one privileges, but it also carries a burden of responsibility. The crux of that responsibility is to live honorably, and strive for the highest standard of conduct and performance.

No one is compelled to join the Regiment of Midshipmen. Some choose it as a consequence of the profession they wish to pursue; others choose it for the training it provides. Thus all Midshipmen are "willingly enrolled".

The Regiment of Midshipmen is an organization with stated goals and methods. As a member of this organization, a Midshipman pledges to follow the regulations that make it possible for the organization and its members to collectively reach their goals.

To live honorably is to do what is just, right and good. It connotes the importance of consideration of others as well as oneself, and the communal nature of human society. The good of others and the good of the community are important in any setting, but particularly so on a ship, due to the confined nature of life at sea, and the perils that all face collectively. One must be able to rely on one's shipmates in all things.

Loyalty is the sentiment of devotion that one feels toward another, such as country, community, family, and friends. A Midshipman's devotion to welfare of shipmates and the Academy is a measure of their honor.

Integrity is the adherence to moral and ethical principles and honor. It is the ingredient that engenders trust among one another, which makes for a more rewarding and productive existence. It is closely linked with the concept of honor.

Graduates of the Regiment of Midshipmen at Maine Maritime Academy are renowned for the "stick-to-it-iveness". Even when the task is long, dirty, and difficult, the job gets done in good order, and with pride. This is a characteristic that separates the "good" from the "great", and is a mark of a true professional.

Midshipmen will take the above oath by holding up their right hands and pledging to voluntarily bind themselves by its terms. This must not be a perfunctory procedure in any sense and should be carefully

considered before taking it.

090. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

TO ALL MIDSHIPMEN:

You are expected to acquire pride in certain traditions. You will find that once you wear the Academy uniform, people are quick to criticize you for any transgression from commonly accepted military standards. At first thought this may seem a little unfair, but what it means is that they place a trust in the midshipmen and officers of the Academy and expect them to so conduct themselves as to measure up to this trust. This criticism should not irritate you but rather instill you with the pride that the Country and State expect so much of you.

Your standards of conduct are:

FIRST: A Maine Maritime Academy Midshipman is expected to tell the truth regardless of the consequences and should scorn the very appearance of an untruth and/or evasion of the truth. Do not think that by telling a part of the truth and concealing the remainder you are doing all that is expected and required of you. The highest standards of charter are particularly vital.

SECOND: The Academy teaches that no matter how hard the task assigned, it is expected to be accomplished. If you are resolute, the tasks that you face will not be beyond your powers. Obstacles are things to climb over, not from which to turn back.

THIRD: Avoid the use of profane and obscene language.

FOURTH: A midshipman does not take what is not his/hers. The sentiment of the Regiment of Midshipmen is against the retention of any midshipman who is guilty of theft. You are told this in order that, through any mistaken sense of kindness or loyalty to another midshipman, you will not protect a person who is a thief.

FIFTH: It is important to keep your body clean and healthy.

SIXTH: It is a tradition of the Maine Maritime Academy that a midshipman perseveres to the end. This does not mean that each midshipman goes around with a chip on the shoulder, but rather does not readily, in the face of adversity, quit. In athletic games you will see the team at the end of the game, whether they are ahead or behind, fighting just as hard as at the beginning of the game.

SEVENTH: Officer-like character means to all of us the proper coordination of honor, truthfulness, uprightness, loyalty and energy. There is no simple formula for gaining it. It comes as a result of years of discipline. Character embodies loyalty; loyalty to Country, to the Academy and its customs, and to your companions of the Academy - both senior and junior. There are many other elements of officer-like character, some

of which are courtesy, modesty, simplicity and straightforwardness.

So your development is really threefold: mind, body and character. You are entering with people from all over this country and from abroad and they will judge you according to your traits. They will not care whether you are rich or poor, or whether you worked for your living or not. It is the kind of person you are that matters to them, and actions speak louder than words.

100. EXPLANATION OF TERMS “MIDSHIPMAN” AND “CADET”

Under 46 CFR, the term "cadet" refers to a student enrolled in the U. S. Maritime Service and in good standing at a State maritime academy; the term "midshipman" refers to a student in good standing at a State maritime academy who has accepted midshipman status in the U.S. Naval Reserve including the Merchant Marine Reserve.

At Maine Maritime Academy, the term "midshipman" refers to any man or woman enrolled in the Regimental Training Program. The term "cadet" is used to identify midshipman officer positions aboard the training vessel.