

1630 Sea Duty

In a typical career, all 1630s are required to complete two sea duty tours prior to coming up for promotion to CDR: an initial 24-month sea tour as an ENS or LTJG and a second tour as a LT or LCDR. In FY02, this second sea tour was gradually extended from 24 to 30 months to accommodate the expanding number of sea duty requirements and a growing demand by deploying battle groups for increased 1630 continuity.

There are opportunities afloat for LTs eager to return to an operational environment and assume increased responsibility in such assignments as CVW Targeteer, Destroyer Squadrons or Numbered Fleet staffs. LCDR sea duty assignments are equally rewarding and also afford officers tremendous leadership opportunities as mentors to junior officers and enlisted personnel. Assignments include LHA/LHD Ship's Intel Officer, Numbered Fleet staffs, CV/CVN

Assistant Ship's Intel Officer, PHIBRON N2, CCG/CCDG Assistant Intel Officer, and CVW Intel Officer. In some cases, an officer may have the opportunity to go to sea as both a LT and a LCDR.

The fact that we have opportunities for officers to complete their second sea tour as either a LT or a LCDR gives officers more flexibility in planning their personal lives. Professionally, this option also provides 1630s more opportunities to pursue specific

career goals. For example, if an officer wants to fill a LCDR attaché position, because of the extended en route training track, the timing often works better if the officer completes LT vice LCDR sea duty. When it comes time for promotion, it cannot be over-emphasized that it is successful performance in these sea duty assignments - not the pay grade - which impacts an officer's promo-



tion potential.

With regard to CDR Sea duty, it isn't the billet an officer goes to that impacts promotion to Captain; it's performance in that assignment. As a reminder, the CDR Sea Screen board was established as an equitable way to resolve the disparity between CDR 1630s and CDR sea duty billets. Approximately 70 percent of our CDR 1630s will be selected to go to sea. Each officer is given three looks. Again, it isn't when an officer is selected to

go to sea or the billet they go to that impacts promotion to Captain, but it's his or her performance in the CDR sea duty assignment that the Captain promotion board will evaluate.

For a limited number of Captains, sea duty is available at the numbered fleet level. The DNI personally looks at each officer nominated for these assignments.

Finally, there are many other opportunities for 1630s to work in direct support of our operational forces. These tours can be just as demanding as sea duty and afford officers an opportunity to do additional operational assignments. While these tours do not "count" as sea duty, they are very important assignments and sea pay is received for many of them. These tours include Naval Special Warfare, VP/VQ Tactical Support Centers, NAVSOUTH, CPRW and VQ N2 CDR billets.

All 1630's should work with the detailer to complete their sea duty milestones at the

earliest opportunity. Demonstrated superior performance at sea in a variety of billets should be the foundation of every intelligence officer's career.

Attache Note

Visit www.persnet.navy.mil, select detailers, PERS 44, 4411, and then Attache in the left hand frame, or e-mail us at p4411c@persnet.navy.mil.



Submit Address Changes On-line at
www.persnet.navy.mil/periodicals/link-perspective/Link-Perspective.htm