DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CHIEF OF NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
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CH-2 of 20 OCT 2000
CH-1 of 25 Aug 2000

CNETINST 1530.7E
OTE3
2 June 2000

CNET INSTRUCTION 1530.7E

Subj: ENLISTED COMMISSIONING PROGRAM (NUCLEAR OPTION)

Ref: (a) CNET P1533/3 (NROTC Administration Manual)
(b) CNETINST 1533.12F (Regulations for the Administration and Management of the NROTC)

1. Purpose. To prescribe procedures for the administration and management of the Enlisted Commissioning Program (Nuclear Option).

2. Cancellation. CNETINST 1530.7D

3. Information. The Enlisted Commissioning Program (Nuclear Option), hereinafter referred to as the NECP, provides a means to commission selected qualified nuclear trained enlisted personnel into the nuclear propulsion training program for service as submarine or surface warfare (nuclear trained) officers. It is a part of the Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP), but is administered separately.

4. Program Regulations and Standards

a. Regulations

(1) Enrollment. NECP students will be enrolled only in those Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) institutions currently approved by the program manager. Changes to the list of approved universities will be made on a case basis. The following universities are currently approved:

University of Arizona
Auburn University
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
University of Kansas
University of New Mexico
North Carolina State University
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
University of Texas
University of Utah
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin
University of Utah
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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(2) Tuition and Fees. NECP students will be responsible

for all tuition and fees attendant to their approved degree plans. It is the student's responsibility to seek whatever tuition aid may be available, including veteran's benefits and university scholarships. Professors of Naval Science (PNS) should assist the student wherever possible. Study under any such scholarship must be on a full-time basis, in the same university, in the approved major, and at the undergraduate level only.

(3) Degree Completion Time

(a) NECP students should graduate in as short a period as possible based on their academic ability and previous college experience. Students will normally complete degree requirements within 36 months study at the university, unless candidates are matriculating in an established 5-year degree program. In such cases, an officer candidate may be granted an extension of up to 6 months.

R) (b) Students will be ordered to their NROTC units for the beginning of the summer session of the respective schools. If possible, this session should be fully utilized to start the student on courses required for graduation. However, it is recognized that some preliminary courses (e.g., pre-calculus) may be required for some students during this time. Officer candidates who are to be commissioned at Officer Candidate School (OCS) will normally graduate by the end of their third spring session.

(c) NECP candidates must not have passed their 26th birthday at commissioning for students and staff pickup instructors, and 31st birthday at commissioning for sea returnee staff instructors.

(4) Disenrollment

(a) Disenrollment is the purview of the program manager, who may direct such action for academic reasons, disciplinary and moral problems (e.g. drug use, civil conviction, etc.), or on the recommendation of the PNS.

(b) NECP students who are disenrolled for any reason from NECP may not remain in the ECP.

(c) Any NECP student who is disenrolled for any reason will be screened for return to the enlisted nuclear propulsion training program.

(5) Nuclear Propulsion Training Program. All NECP students are considered to be volunteers for the nuclear propulsion training program. Any student who is not selected for this program, but who is maintaining minimum academic standards, will be allowed to complete their degree and be commissioned as an unrestricted line officer.

(6) Commissioning Options

(a) There are two different commissioning options available to an officer candidate. The majority of officer candidates will be commissioned through OCS following receipt of their degree. However, on a case-by-case basis, an NECP officer candidate can be commissioned in a manner similar to that of a NROTC midshipman (i.e., at the host NROTC unit after completing the required Naval Science courses). The option assigned should be the one that allows the officer candidate to maximize his/her academic performance. (R

(b) The unit commissioning option requires that the officer candidate complete additional courses and be more fully integrated into the NROTC unit. Since academic preparation for nuclear power training is extremely important, only those officer candidates who maintain high academic standards qualify for this option. An officer candidate choosing this option must meet the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA after the first two semesters must be above 3.4.
- Cumulative GPA must stay above 3.0.
- All session GPAs must stay above 2.8.

(c) Officer candidates will be assigned the OCS commissioning option unless unit commissioning is specifically requested. The request will be submitted to Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (DCNO) (Manpower and Personnel) (N133) via Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) (OTE3). (R

(d) Officer candidates approved for the unit commissioning option, who fail to maintain the academic standards stated above, will be removed from that option and required to attend OCS. (R

(7) Naval Science Courses. NECP students in the OCS option should not be enrolled in Naval Science courses for which degree credit (e.g., free elective or elective credit) is not awarded, as their degree plans are already severely compressed. Accordingly, these graduates will attend the next available Officer Candidate School (OCS) and, upon completion, be commissioned as Ensigns in the unrestricted line with 1165 or 1175 designators.

(8) Obligation

(a) NECP graduates incur a 5-year active duty obligation upon commissioning. Graduates not selected for nuclear propulsion training will be obligated for 4 years.

(b) An NECP student who completes their degree but is not commissioned for any reason will incur a 5-year enlisted obligation from the date of disenrollment.

(9) Class Attendance. NECP students shall attend all classes for courses in which they are enrolled, unless they are specifically excused by the PNS for sufficient cause. This policy extends to seminars, preparatory sessions, workshops, or other special programs which are a part of the academic major or which the student has been directed to attend, regardless of university policy concerning attendance.

(10) Class Withdrawal. DCNO (N133) via CNET must approve all withdrawals from technical courses. Justification for withdrawal must be provided as part of this request.

(11) Transfer Between Universities. NECP students are not permitted to transfer between universities.

(12) Advancement-in-Rate. NECP students retain their enlisted rate for pay and advancement purposes and are eligible for advancement in rate in accordance with established procedures.

(13) Other Officer Candidate Programs. NECP students may not apply for any other officer training program.

(14) Integration into NROTC Battalion

(a) The primary responsibility of NECP students is their academic preparation for commissioning and nuclear power training. Involvement in the NROTC battalion depends on the commissioning option chosen. Officer candidates who have been assigned to the unit commissioning option should be fully integrated into the battalion. At any time this option adversely affects academic performance, the PNS should request that the commissioning option be changed.

(b) All NECP students may participate in weekly drills and may be integrated into the NROTC battalion organization, provided assigned duties do not impact on academics. They should also be indoctrinated as officer candidates in military responsibilities, new Navy policies and developments, and the leadership responsibilities of commissioned officers.

(c) An essential part of the preparation of officer candidates for commissioned service is their physical conditioning. Accordingly, NECP officer candidates shall be required to meet the same physical conditioning standards as NROTC midshipmen. NECP students not meeting the physical/weight standards shall be handled in accordance with established Navy policies.

(d) NECP students shall maintain a sharp personal appearance at all times, in keeping with their status as officer candidates. It is desired that they wear uniforms at least once per week and participate in such inspections as are required of NROTC midshipmen.

(15) Off-Duty Employment. Subject to reference (a) and the MILPERSMAN 5370-010, NECP students may engage in legitimate enterprise and employment while on leave or liberty. It is emphasized, however, that academic performance may not be allowed to suffer by such employment.

b. Academic Standards

(1) Majors. NECP students must pursue academic majors approved by the program manager. Once approved, academic majors may not be changed without prior approval of the program manager. The following majors are currently approved:

- Engineering (less Industrial)
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Computer Science, restricted to the following:
  - University of Idaho (Scientific Option)
  - University of Texas (Engineering Option)
  - University of Washington (Engineering Option)

(2) Calculus and Physics. NECP students must complete at least 1 year each of calculus and calculus-based physics, regardless of university requirements for the approved major.

(3) Degree Plan. NECP students must follow an approved degree completion plan unless deviation is approved by DCNO (N133) or by the PNS as appropriate, in advance if possible. By extension of this requirement, NECP students are required to pass all courses attempted and must meet university requirements for the awarding of the degree approved by the program manager.

(4) Full-Time Enrollment. NECP students must be enrolled as full-time students, as defined by the university in which enrolled, commencing at the fall term after assignment to the NROTC unit. This includes subsequent summer sessions. It is anticipated that, normally, an NECP student will be required to enroll in a minimum of 16 hours per term.

(5) Grade Point Average. NECP students shall maintain a semester and cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

c. Status of Officer Candidates

(1) NECP students are designated as officer candidates upon execution of their orders to a participating university NROTC unit. At that time they shall be treated as prospective officers and accorded the same privileges and responsibilities as other officer candidates.

(2) NECP students may be assigned such collateral duties as may be expected of other officer candidates provided that such duties do not detract from their academic responsibilities.

d. Disciplinary Matters

(1) Officer candidates shall conform to such standards of social and academic behavior as may be required by the university in which they are enrolled. PNSs should request from the university that any disciplinary matters be brought to their attention immediately.

(2) As active duty naval personnel, officer candidates are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice and may be held accountable for their actions accordingly.

5. Program Administration. In the following paragraphs where CNET is specified, OTE3 is implied. Detailed guidance on administrative procedures is provided in reference (a).

a. Application for Admission

(1) By CNO letter, an annual request will be made for applications. Such applications will be forwarded to DCNO (N133). That office will, in turn, coordinate selection procedures with Naval Reactors. Applications must be received at DCNO (N133) by 1 November to ensure timely processing.

(2) Upon completion of the selection process the list of selectees and alternates will be published by CNO N133.

(3) CNET will then send admission application forms to each selectee for that individual's first and second choice school. Unit PNSs will also be provided pertinent information concerning selectees who seek to attend their universities.

(4) Simultaneously, DCNO (N133) will send the medical portions of the selection packages to Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) for screening in accordance with the Manual of the Medical Department (MANMED).

(5) CNET will forward the applications to the applicable PNSs, along with unofficial SAT scores/college transcripts.

(6) PNSs are then responsible for arranging for the admission of selectees. Assistance, including any additional information required, will be obtained from CNET. At this time, packets should be mailed to the selectees providing information on housing, tuition, enrollment procedures, etc.

(7) The PNS shall notify CNET when selectees are accepted by the university. CNET will notify DCNO (N133) and the other units on the selectee's choice list. It is imperative that the

PNS report any delay in gaining admission to CNET with a prognosis and expected date for resolution.

(8) Orders cannot be issued until university acceptance and favorable medical screening are gained. Selectees will be ordered to report to the appropriate NROTC unit prior to the beginning of the summer term for indoctrination, preparatory courses, and uniform issue.

(9) Prior to enrollment, NECP students must acquire 6 years obligated service. This should have been accomplished prior to transfer from the previous command. It may be accomplished by reenlistment or by extension, for which the formal Reason for Extension shall be:

> "Training (NECP). I understand that upon admission to a university under this program, this extension becomes binding and may not thereafter be canceled except as provided in MILPERSMAN 1160-040." (R

(10) Payment of the Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB) is not authorized to enlisted members selected for college training under the NECP who are reenlisting for the purpose of meeting obligated service requirements for such training. Additionally, selectees are not eligible for specialty pay, including Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP) or submarine pay.

b. Degree Completion Plan

(1) During their first fall term, the NECP student, with their assigned counselor, shall prepare two degree completion plans, one for each option, which are acceptable to the university. These plans shall list the academic major and all courses planned for completion, except that nontechnical elective courses may be generalized (e.g., 3 hrs. - Humanities Elective). The two plans, along with the desired commissioning option, shall be submitted by the PNS to DCNO (N133) via CNET for approval as soon as practicable, but not later than 1 month after the receipt of the first fall term grades.

(2) Once approved, the degree completion plan must be followed explicitly. Any deviation must be approved by the PNS or DCNO (N133), in advance if possible. N133 must approve all changes which result in:

- decrease in the number of technical courses completed.
- change in major.
- change in graduation date.

(3) Written requests must be submitted for an extension of graduation date, a change in major, or a decrease in the number of technical courses, along with justification for such a

request. An extension beyond 36 months of university classes will normally not be approved, unless a candidate is matriculating in an established 5-year degree program.

c. Monitoring of Academic Performance

(1) At the end of each academic term, within 2 weeks of the posting of grades for the term, including summer sessions, the PNS shall submit a copy of each NECP student's grade report and updated degree completion plan to DCNO (N133) via CNET. The plan shall list any changes authorized by the PNS and any which require approval by N133 along with justification.

(2) The failure of any NECP student to meet any program academic standard shall be commented on and appropriate action taken and reported. It is the intent of this requirement that the PNS perform all academic counseling and monitor compliance with program standards; however, the program manager must be advised of the student's problems, their progress, and of any counseling action taken. This report should be submitted along with the academic term update. Copies of any academic board results shall also be included.

R) (3) A student may be placed on academic probation by the PNS for failure to meet any program standard. Academic probation is intended to be a warning to the student that failure to correct the specific academic problem could result in a recommendation of disenrollment. The exact terms of the probation shall be provided to the student (copy to DCNO (N133) via CNET) with the action(s) required for removal from probation. Recommended actions for officer candidates who do not meet program standards include: removal from battalion activities, change of commissioning option, mandatory study, maintenance of a strict study schedule/log, and weekly counseling. Failure to meet the terms of probation may result in extended probation or recommendation for disenrollment.

(4) In case of a recommendation for disenrollment for academic reasons, the student shall normally be allowed to enroll in the next academic semester, unless this is prohibited by university regulations.

(5) There is no provision in the NECP for a Leave of Absence, either voluntary or punitive.

d. Commissioning Procedures

(1) Officer candidates will be commissioned at the unit or will receive follow-on orders for OCS as appropriate. The choice of option will be reflected in the degree completion plan.

(a) Unit Commissioning Option. An officer candidate (R
accepted for the unit commissioning option is required to complete the following Naval Science classes:

- Sea Power and Maritime Affairs
- Navigation
- Seamanship and Naval Operations
- Naval Ship Systems II (Weapons)
- Leadership and Management
- Leadership and Ethics

The courses may be taken in any order except that the Leadership and Ethics course must be taken during the last year at the university.

(b) OCS Commissioning Option. Most officer candi- (R
dates will attend OCS immediately after graduation. CNET will coordinate with the Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) for OCS orders as required.

(2) The documents listed in reference (a) are required to be submitted for each graduate.

e. Disenrollment Procedures

(1) Should any situation arise which the PNS feels might warrant disenrollment from the NECP, he/she should immediately (by phone) provide details and recommendations to CNET. If disenrollment is recommended, the PNS will make a statement concerning the student's suitability for future duty in the nuclear power program. Written notification shall follow as soon as practicable, including a copy of the availability report.

(2) Upon receipt of authorization to disenroll a student, (R
either in writing or by phone, the PNS will immediately issue an availability report. This report will be in message format as described by the Enlisted Transfer Manual, Chapter 20. CNET should be an info addee.

(3) Upon receipt of disenrollment authorization, administrative processing is required in accordance with reference (a).

(4) Voluntary disenrollment requests should be given careful consideration and forwarded with appropriate comments and recommendations.

(5) A case involving intentional failure or dropout status should be first considered as a disciplinary matter, but disenrollment is appropriate.

f. Interviews. CNET will coordinate with NAVPERSCOM (PERS-42) and DCNO (N133) to schedule interviews in early spring for those officer candidates graduating in the current calendar year.

g. Advisor. Each PNS shall appoint an officer as NECP advisor. This advisor shall be the unit's designated Nuclear Power Officer/Representative.

h. Reports and Forms. Provided in reference (a).

i. Unsatisfactory Performance (Other Than Academic)

(1) Apparent lack of motivation, lack of responsibility, unsuitable character traits, etc., which make an NECP student a poor candidate for commissioned service, should be reported to DCNO (N133) via CNET with a recommended course of action. Every reasonable course of corrective action should be taken before a recommendation for disenrollment is made.

(2) In any case where disenrollment may be recommended, the PNS shall convene an aptitude evaluation board, consisting of three officers, to review the case and provide a recommendation to the PNS. The NECP student shall be accorded the right to appear before the board.

j. Academic Honors. PNSs may award academic stars to NECP students according to the same criteria established for NROTC midshipmen. No limit is placed on the number of awardees.

k. Leave. NECP students may be granted emergency leave in accordance with current Navy policy. Annual leave may be granted only during non-academic periods; however, within established procedures (i.e., periods not greater than 72 hours), the PNS is encouraged to liberally grant time off during academic recesses.

l. Performance Evaluations

(1) NECP students are required to be evaluated in accordance with BUPERSINST 1610.10.

(2) Positive statements concerning aptitude, potential for service as an officer, military bearing, and evaluation of potential for completing the program should be included as remarks.

(3) The commanding officer shall sign all petty officer evaluations. Copies of evaluations containing adverse comments or on which a student elects to make a statement shall be forwarded to CNET in addition to other required action.

m. Physical Standards

(1) Annual physical examinations are not required for NECP students.

(2) Compliance with MANMED Art. 15-46 regarding the Annual Certificate of Physical Condition is directed.

(3) Copies of medical reports concerning disabling diseases or injuries that might preclude normal academic participation or commissioning in the unrestricted line must be provided to CNET. Inability to maintain physical qualifications could result in disenrollment and return to enlisted status.

(4) Officer candidates shall receive a complete precommissioning physical examination within 12 months of commissioning. The forms SF88, SF93, and any related documents must be submitted to BUMED (Code 252) for determination of physical qualification. After endorsement and return by BUMED, copies of all pertinent medical documents will be sent to CNET in the individual's precommissioning packet.

/s/ D. L. BREWER, III
Vice CNET

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CNETINST 1530.7E CH-2
OTE3
20 OCT 2000

CNET INSTRUCTION 1530.7E CHANGE TRANSMITTAL 2

Subj: ENLISTED COMMISSIONING PROGRAM (NUCLEAR OPTION)

1. Purpose. To update the basic instruction.

2. Action. Make the following pen and ink change to the basic instruction: Paragraph 4a(1) - add "University of South Carolina" to list of approved universities.

D. L. BREWER, III
Vice CNET

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