§ 700.848 Relations with merchant seamen.

When in foreign waters, the commanding officer, with the approval of the senior officer present, may receive on board as supernumeraries for rations and passage:

(a) Distressed seamen of the United States for passage to the United States, provided they bind themselves to be amenable in all respects to Navy Regulations.

(b) As prisoners, seamen from merchant vessels of the United States, provided that the witnesses necessary to substantiate the charges against them.
§ 700.855  Status of boats.

(a) Boats shall be regarded in all matters concerning the rights, privileges and comity of nations as part of the ship or aircraft to which they belong.

(b) In ports where war, insurrection or armed conflict exists or threatens, the commanding officer shall:

(1) Require that boats away from the ship or aircraft have some appropriate and competent person in charge; and

(2) See that steps are taken to make their nationality evident at all times.

§ 700.856  Pilotage.

(a) The commanding officer shall:

(1) Pilot the ship under all ordinary circumstances, but he may employ pilots whenever, in his or her judgment such employment is prudent;

(2) Not call a pilot on board until the ship is ready to proceed;

(3) Not retain a pilot on board after the ship has reached her destination or a point where the pilot is no longer required;

(4) Give preference to licensed pilots; and

(5) Pay pilots no more than the local rates.

(b) A pilot is merely an adviser to the commanding officer. The presence on board of a pilot shall not relieve the commanding officer or any subordinate from his or her responsibility for the proper performance of the duties with which he or she may be charged concerning the navigation and handling of the ship. For an exception to the provisions of this paragraph, see “Rules and Regulations Covering Navigation of the Panama Canal and Adjacent Waters,” (35 CFR Chapter I, subchapter C) which directs that the pilot assigned to a vessel in those waters shall have control of the navigation and movement of the vessel. Also see the provisions of these regulations concerning the navigation of ships at a naval shipyard or station, or in entering or leaving drydock.

§ 700.857  Safe navigation and regulations governing operation of ships and aircraft.

(a) The commanding officer is responsible for the safe navigation of his or her ship or aircraft, except as prescribed otherwise in these regulations for ships at a naval shipyard or station, in drydock, or in the Panama Canal. During an armed conflict, an exercise simulating armed conflict, or an authorized law enforcement activity, competent authority may modify the use of lights or other safeguards against collision. Except in time of actual armed conflict, such modifications will be authorized only when ships or aircraft clearly will not be hazarded.

(b) Professional standards and regulations governing shiphandling, safe navigation, safe anchoring and related operational matters shall be promulgated by the Chief of Naval Operations.

(c) Professional standards and regulations governing the operation of naval aircraft and related matters shall be promulgated by the Chief of Naval Operations or the Commandant of the Marine Corps, as appropriate.

(d) The Commanding Officer is responsible for ensuring that weather and oceanic effects are considered in the effective and safe operation of his or her ship or aircraft.

§ 700.859  Quarantine.

(a) The commanding officer or aircraft commander of a ship or aircraft shall comply with all quarantine regulations and restrictions, United States or foreign, for the port or area within which the ship or aircraft is located.

(b) The commanding officer shall give all information required by authorized foreign officials, insofar as permitted by military security, and will meet the quarantine requirements promulgated by proper authority for United States or foreign ports. However, nothing in this section shall be interpreted as authorizing commanding officers to permit on board inspections by foreign officials, or to modify in any manner the provisions of §700.828 of these regulations.

(c) The commanding officer shall allow no intercourse with a port or area or with other ships or aircraft.