§ 705.22 Relations with community groups.

(a) Naval commands will cooperate with and assist community groups within their capabilities, to the extent feasible.

(b) Navy commands will encourage membership of personnel in community organizations.

(c) Officers in command will withhold approval of requests from community groups, organizations or individuals whose purposes are unclear, pending advice from the Chief of Information.

(d) Commands may make facilities, less housing and messing, available to community groups, at no expense to the government, when it is in the best interest of the Navy to do so. Mess facilities may not be used for meetings of civic groups or other associations unless all the members of the group concerned are authorized participants of the mess as prescribed in NAVPERS 15951, except as provided below:

(1) Requests to make open mess facilities available to professional or technical seminars or civic groups meeting in connection with an official visit to the activity may be submitted to the officer in charge of the mess, or other appropriate authority. Such requests may be approved when it is shown that the inspection of the activity or the holding of a professional

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§ 705.23 Guest cruises.

(a) General policy. (1) The embarkation of civilian guests in Navy ships is appropriate in the furtherance of continuing public awareness of the Navy and its mission.

(i) Examples of embarkations for public affairs purposes are (but not limited to): Individuals, community service clubs, civic groups, the Navy League, and trade and professional associations.

(ii) Embarkation of media representatives on assignment is discussed in §705.14.

(iii) Other categories may be established by the Secretary of the Navy, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense.

(2) It has also been demonstrated that the occasional embarkation on cruises of families and personal guests of naval personnel has contributed materially to the morale of the family circle and has instilled in each individual a sense of pride in his ship. For further information see OPNAVINST 5720.2G.

(3) Embarkations should be conducted within the framework of regularly scheduled operations; underway periods solely to accommodate guests are not authorized.