

• MILPERSMAN 1301-223

**OFFICER SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS - NUCLEAR QUALIFIED
SURFACE WARFARE OFFICERS (SWOs) TO CONVENTIONALLY
POWERED SHIPS**

Responsible Office	OPNAV(N133)	Phone:	DSN	225-4192
			COM	(703) 695-4192
			FAX	697-7751

NAVPERSCOM CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER	Phone:	1-866-U ASK
	Toll Free	NPC

1. **Policy.**

a. The Navy Nuclear Power Program requires the highest quality of officers. With the increasing requirement for nuclear trained surface warfare officers (SWO(N))s aboard aircraft carriers, the continued accession, retention, and development of these officers in surface warfare dictate that they every opportunity for service in the best surface combatants available.

b. Since SWO (N)s spend nearly all of their subspecialty tours in engineering billets, SWOs selected for nuclear training and nuclear qualified SWOs will be assigned to non-engineering billets on AEGIS ships or other conventionally powered combatants on a priority basis.

2. **Assignment Procedures.** The following policies are established to direct assignment of SWO(N)s, to include SWOs both selected for nuclear training and those nuclear qualified.

a. Division officer assignment:

(1) Officers ordered to conventionally powered ships will be assigned for 21 months in available non-engineering billets. SWO(N) division officers first assigned to conventionally powered ships will also serve a nominal 28-month second division officer tour in a nuclear powered ship following initial nuclear training.

(2) Officers assigned to a single division officer tour

will serve a nominal 36-month tour in a nuclear powered ship.

b. Department head assignment

(1) SWOs(N) will normally be assigned to conventionally powered ships as operations, combat systems officers or first lieutenants prior to a 2 year second principal assistant tour in a nuclear powered ship.

(2) Conventional ship department head tour lengths for SWO(N)s are 18 months unless assigned to a CG/DDG Weapons Control Officer/combat systems officer fleet-up tour, in which case the tour length will be 24 months. The total tour length for SWO(N) is limited by the requirement to re-establish nuclear proficiency at specified intervals.

c. Commanding officer (CO) and executive officer (XO) assignment.

(1) SWO(N)s will be assigned to CO and XO billets at the appropriate time for their seniority and following selection by an administrative screening board.

(2) When required to re-establish nuclear proficiency, SWO(N)s enroute to a XO/CO afloat, CO-SM, XO Afloat, or XO-SM billet should be ordered to a Commander, Naval Air Forces/Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic Nuclear Power Mobile Training Team for refresher training.

d. Assignment of all SWO(N)s must be approved by Navy Personnel Command, Submarine Officer Career Management Division (PERS-42).