

MILPERSMAN 1050-280

DEFINITION OF LIBERTY

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Governing Directive	DOD Directive 1327.5 of 24 Sept 85
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1. **Definition: Regular Liberty.** Regular liberty is a routinely authorized absence, at the end of which the member is actually on board or in the location from which the member regularly commutes to work, which lasts from the end of normal working hours on one day to the beginning of normal working hours the next workday.
2. **Definition: Weekend Liberty.** For members whose duty hours follow a traditional American work week, weekend liberty will be from the end of working hours Friday afternoon until the beginning of normal working hours on the following Monday.
3. **Definition: Equivalent Weekend Liberty.** For members who work other schedules, commanding officers will ensure an equivalent weekend liberty, though days of the week may vary.
4. **Maximum Length of Liberty Period.** Except for public holiday weekends or public holiday periods specifically extended by the President, regular liberty periods will not exceed 3 days in length.
5. **Definition: Special Liberty**
 - a. Special liberty is liberty granted outside of regular liberty periods for unusual reasons, such as
 - (1) emergencies,
 - (2) to exercise voting responsibilities of citizenship,
 - (3) for observance of major religious events, requiring the individual to be continuously absent from work or duty, or

(4) for special recognition.

b. Special liberty will normally not exceed 3 days; under certain circumstances, 4 days special liberty may be authorized.

c. Special liberty periods of 3 to 4 days are intended as compensation for

(1) unusually long working hours,

(2) members on-board ship in overhaul away from home port, or

(3) as recognition's for exceptional performance.

6. **Definition: 3-Day Special Liberty.** 3-day special liberty is a liberty period designed to give a servicemember 3 full days absence from work or duty, usually beginning at the end of normal working hours on a given day and expiring with the start of normal working hours on the 4th day, e.g., from Monday evening until Friday morning.

NOTE: When a 3-day liberty embraces only regular liberty time, such as a Saturday and Sunday with a Monday or Friday national holiday, when scheduled work hours are not included, the time off is treated as regular liberty.

7. **Definition: 4-Day Special Liberty.** 4-day special liberty is a liberty period designed to give a servicemember 4 full days absence from work or duty, usually beginning at the end of normal working hours on a given day and expiring with the start of normal working hours on the 5th day, and including at least 2 consecutive non-work days, e.g., from Wednesday evening until Monday morning.

8. **Restrictions on Combining Liberty and Other Absences.** DOD Directive 1327.5 places specific restrictions on combining regular liberty with special liberty and special liberty with leave. Refer to MILPERSMAN 1050-290.