

MILPERSMAN 1301-220

OFFICER SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS - ENGINEERING DUTY OFFICER (EDO)

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1. **Policy.** Because of the unique role of the Engineering Duty Officer (EDO) as a technical restricted line specialist for the design, acquisition and life cycle maintenance of ships and ship systems, combat weapon systems, communications, ship and shore command systems, and space warfare systems, special consideration must be given to career development of the individual EDO.

a. This career can be divided into two phases - basic and professional. During the basic phase, the officer obtains basic skills as a Naval officer and an engineer.

b. The professional phase, which constitutes the majority of an EDO career, emphasizes a single technical specialty and is the period during which the officer is a practicing professional EDO.

2. **EDO Basic Phase.** During this phase, an EDO will be assigned to allow maximum opportunity to complete the following career requirements:

a. **Sea Duty.** EDOs should serve at sea, preferably in a combatant ship, early in their careers. Normally, the first tour afloat will be accomplished as an Unrestricted Line (URL) officer. Officers obtaining an Engineering Degree (ED) option from Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) or United States Naval Academy (USNA) will be assigned to combatant sea tours upon commissioning.

b. **Graduate Education.** Assignment to postgraduate school is essential if the officer does not have a graduate degree before becoming an EDO.

c. **Engineering Duty Qualification Program (EDQP).** All new EDOs are required to complete the EDQP. Priority will be given

to first shore duty tour assignment (other than postgraduate school) of new EDOs to commands administering the EDQP.

3. **EDO Professional Phase.** Assignments will emphasize increased officer technical competence by:

a. Increasing experience in the technical specialty (ship and ship systems, combat/weapon systems, communications, ship and shore command systems, information systems and space warfare systems).

b. Increasing involvement in design, engineering, acquisition and life cycle management of systems.

4. **Special Qualifications.** Additional consideration must be given to officers possessing special qualifications to ensure maximum usage of that qualification. Officers who have qualified in submarines, either in the URL or EDO Dolphin programs, will be assigned primarily to billets at sea in submarine tenders and ashore in type commander staffs, research and development, design and acquisition, fleet maintenance and support of submarines.