MILPERSMAN 5726-010

LIAISON WITH CIVIL AGENCIES

Responsible Office	NAVPERSCOM (PERS-660)	Phone:	DSN	882-4325
			COM	(901) 874-4325
			FAX	882-2785

1. **Liaison Activity**. Navy Personnel Command is responsible for the maintenance of a liaison relationship with civil agencies both government and private, whose functions relate to services, other than medical, for or on behalf of personnel as a result of their naval service and to their family members.

2. **Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society**

a. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, although closely affiliated with Navy and Marine Corps and working exclusively with naval service personnel and their families, is a private charitable organization. Commanding officers are requested to take such interest and provide such assistance to the society as may be feasible and to ensure members under their command are familiar with the nature and extent of the society's assistance. Members should be urged to inform their families of availability of these services. The society can assist when there is need by:

A gratuity
An interest-free loan or a combination gratuity/loan
Counseling and advice
Layettes
Thrift shops
Visiting nurse service

b. All society services are available in times of need to officer and enlisted personnel of naval service, active and retired, their family members and the families of deceased personnel. An Educational Fund has been established to assist the eligible children of Navy and Marine Corps personnel who have a proven need for assistance with the costs of higher education. Society services are available through Navy-Marine Corps Relief Offices at Navy or Marine Corps installations, or

through the cooperative services of the **American Red Cross (AMCROSS)** if the member or his or her families do not reside in the vicinity of a Naval Relief Auxiliary or Branch.

3. **American Red Cross**

a. The AMCROSS is authorized by Navy regulations to be an authorized medium of communication between naval personnel and their families. In addition, AMCROSS provides a program of social services to Navy members which includes financial assistance for emergency travel and other specified emergency situations. These services are provided by the AMCROSS Manager or designated AMCROSS unit. The handling of AMCROSS messages is specifically addressed in the following paragraphs.

b. The AMCROSS is authorized to use Navy communications facilities to transmit emergency messages to personnel afloat and stations outside the 48 contiguous United States and District of Columbia.

c. "**AMCROSS, Washington, DC**" is the designation of the Emergency Communications (EMER COMM) division message switch AMCROSS headquarters.

d. Request for services and/or replies to AMCROSS inquiries should be addressed to "**AMCROSS, Washington DC.**"

e. All messages received at AMCROSS with afloat or other mobile unit addresses will be routed directly to the unit involved.

f. Route the following messages to the AMCROSS Station Manager at the member's or family member's home port:

(1) Messages for naval families known to be residing overseas or on continental United States naval installations.

(2) Messages in which the service requested is of such a sensitive nature or requires special handling that, when possible, it be provided by an AMCROSS representative.

g. Commands of afloat and other mobile units shall include "**AMCROSS, Washington, DC**" as an information addressee on all replies to messages received from AMCROSS.

h. For preservation of the privacy of the member, commanders at all levels will respect the confidential nature of AMCROSS reports and will ensure that they do not fall into the hands of unauthorized persons. American Red Cross reports are provided as factual information to assist, without recommendation, and to permit the member concerned and their commanding officer to make their own determination about any decision that may be indicated. American Red Cross communications are privileged, should be protected, and are the property of AMCROSS. American Red Cross reports shall not be filed with or become a part of an individual's service record.

4. **Emergency Leave**. It should be noted that AMCROSS verification is not mandated in cases of emergency leave. Commanding officers may, at their discretion, utilize any means available to verify an emergency situation which might require the presence of next of kin. For emergency leave or leave extension in emergency situations, where leave or leave extensions are required, commanding officers, with the consent of the servicemember, may request AMCROSS Station Managers, if available, otherwise National Headquarters, AMCROSS, Washington, D.C. to obtain facts about the emergency situation. Such action should be taken only as a matter of expediency after carefully considering the member's availability and deployment of ship or unit, and amount of leave potential.

5. **American Red Cross Station Managers**

a. Every continental United States installation has either a resident AMCROSS Station Manager or a jurisdictional AMCROSS unit which provides social services to military personnel and their families.

b. Messages for members known to be aboard ships in port are sent from the originating AMCROSS unit direct to the responsible AMCROSS unit at the port of handling. The AMCROSS will coordinate handling with appropriate command.

c. If afloat and pulling into port, and member has been granted emergency leave and requires funds for emergency travel, contact should be made with the AMCROSS office responsible for the port. Members should have emergency travel authorization and a copy of AMCROSS message concerning the emergency when they request assistance.

6. **Family Welfare Reports**. Family welfare reports can be requested on behalf of naval personnel. Requests made of the AMCROSS should include the member's full name, rate, and social security number, address of family members, and names and addresses of persons to be contacted for supporting information.