

[§ 5081. Chief of Naval Operations: appointment; term of office; powers; duties

[(a) There is a Chief of Naval Operations, appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to serve at the pleasure of the President, for a term of four years, from officers on the active-duty list in the line of the Navy, eligible to command at sea and not below the grade of rear admiral. In time of war or national emergency declared by the Congress after December 31, 1968, he may be reappointed for a term of not more than four years.

[(b) The Chief of Naval Operations, while so serving, has the rank of admiral. He takes precedence above all other officers of the naval service, except an officer of the naval service who is serving as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

[(c) Under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations shall exercise supervision over such of the members and organizations of the Navy and the Marine Corps as the Secretary of the Navy determines. Such supervision shall be exercised in a manner consistent with the full operational command vested in unified or specified combatant commanders under section 124 of this title.

[(d) The Chief of Naval Operations is the principal naval adviser to the President and to the Secretary of the Navy on the conduct of war, and the principal naval adviser and naval executive to the Secretary on the conduct of the activities of the Department of the Navy.]

(NOTE: Section 5081 is relocated to chapter 505 as section 5033 with changes.)

[5082. Chief of Naval Operations: coordinating duties

[(a) To coordinate military operations and their support effectively, the Chief of Naval Operations, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, shall—

[(1) determine the personnel and the material requirements of the operating forces, including the order in which ships, aircraft, surface craft, weapons, and facilities are to be constructed, maintained, altered, repaired, and overhauled; and

[(2) coordinate and direct the efforts of the bureaus and offices of the executive part of the Department of the Navy as may be necessary to make available and distribute, when and where needed, the personnel and material required.

[(b) As used in this section, “operating forces” means the several fleets, sea-going forces, sea-frontier forces, district forces, and such of the shore establishment of the Navy and other forces and activities as may be assigned thereto by the President or the Secretary of the Navy.

[§ 5083. Chief of Naval Operations: retirement]

(NOTE: Section 5083 is relocated to chapter 505 as section 5034 with a minor technical change.)