From: Commanding Officer, NROTC Unit, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Subj: POLICY ON FRATERNIZATION

1. Fraternization, inappropriate relationships between seniors and subordinates, has a serious negative impact on the "good order and discipline" of a command and is a punishable offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Clear guidelines exist for those of us on active duty as to what does and does not constitute fraternization. However, such guidelines are lacking within the Naval Battalion for the Midshipmen, Officer Candidates (OCs), and Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) students.

2. In order to establish clear guidelines for the Midshipmen Battalion, the following is published as the Command's policy on fraternization:

   a. First, Second, and Third Class Midshipmen will not date any Fourth Class Midshipman within the Naval Battalion or any first-year cadet within the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets (VTCC). This prohibition does not apply to a civilian student.

   b. First, Second, and Third Class Midshipmen may date among themselves provided that a senior/subordinate relationship does not exist between them. A senior/subordinate relationship exists if the midshipmen are in the same chain of command in the NROTC (or VTCC) or if the senior has any input into the performance evaluation of the subordinate. In such cases, it is the responsibility of the midshipmen involved to bring it to the attention of the Battalion Commander. Under such circumstances, the subordinate midshipman will be transferred to another Naval Battalion company. If the senior midshipman happens to be the Battalion Commander or Executive Officer, the Commanding Officer reserves the authority to remove that midshipman from their billet without prejudice.

   c. No Midshipman will date an OC, MECEP, or any active duty member of the Staff.

3. If there is any doubt about a situation and whether or not it constitutes fraternization, the point of contact is the NROTC Executive Officer.

Copy to:
NROTC Unit Staff
VTCC