COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN INSTRUCTION 5400.7C

Subj: BELL RINGING CEREMONIES

1. **Purpose.** To provide instructional guidelines for Bell Ringing Ceremonies.

2. **Cancellation.** COMDTMIDNINST 5400.7B.

3. **Background.** Bell Ringing Ceremonies are a Naval Academy tradition. These ceremonies celebrate victories over Army.

4. **Ceremonies.** The following are guidelines for the various Bell Ringing Ceremonies:

   a. **Following a Varsity Football victory over Army.** A bell ringing evolution will commemorate a varsity football victory over Army.

      (1) Once a victory over Army in football is known, the Midshipmen left behind, under the direction of the Officer of the Watch (OOW), will be tasked to ring the ENTERPRISE bell the number of points Navy scored during the game every hour on the hour until 2000 on the Sunday following the game.

      (2) Bell Ringing will be secured during religious services from 0900 to 1200 on Sunday.

   b. **Fall Season Sports**

      (1) A bell ringing ceremony will be held to commemorate the fall season N-Star victories over Army in Tecumseh Court the Monday following the Army/Navy Football Game in lieu of noon meal formation. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be rescheduled for later in the week or second semester.

      (2) **Army/Navy Football Victory**

         (a) Each of the following people will ring the Japanese Bell the number of points Navy beat Army by in the following order:

            1. Superintendent
            2. Commandant
            3. Athletic Director
            4. Varsity football head coach
            5. Football team captains

         (b) The following people will then ring the Japanese Bell once each in the following order:

            1. Officer and Faculty representatives
            2. Each football team member
(c) If there is not a Navy varsity football game victory over Army, no Japanese Bell ringing of any kind will occur.

(3) All other Fall Sports Victories

(a) Each of the following will ring the ENTERPRISE Bell the number of varsity season victories over Army in the following order:

1. Superintendent
2. Commandant
3. Athletic Director
4. All victorious team coaches
5. All victorious team captains

(b) The ENTERPRISE Bell will remain open until evening colors that day for all members of the Naval Academy Family to ring.

c. Winter/Spring Season Sports. A Winter/Spring bell ringing ceremony will be held to commemorate victories over Army upon completion of the last Army/Navy competition but no later than the week prior to Commissioning Week. The ceremony will include any varsity sport that defeated Army that did not participate in the fall season ceremony.

(1) Each of the following people will ring the ENTERPRISE Bell the number of varsity season victories over Army in the following order:

(a) Superintendent
(b) Commandant
(c) Athletic Director
(d) All victorious team captains
(e) All victorious team coaches

(2) The ENTERPRISE Bell will remain open until evening colors for all members of the Naval Academy Family to ring.

5. Action. All ceremonies will be facilitated by the Brigade Special Activities Coordinator and coordinated by the Brigade Operations Officer.

6. Review Responsibility. The Commandant of Midshipmen Operations Officer is responsible for the annual review of this instruction.

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