

CHAPTER 8

MESSING BILL  
(PLATE I)

8-3 D

8-1 GENERAL:-

The Gunnery Officer (Commissary and Stores Officer), acting for the Commanding Officer, will have supervision over the General Mess. He will supervise also, the procurement of general provisions, the ration cost, and the proper preparation and serving of all food on board. By noon each Saturday, he will submit to the Commanding Officer, the bill of fare for the coming week. When approved, a copy of this bill of fare will be posted in the galley.

The Gunnery Officer (Commissary & Stores Officer), will sign all orders for provisions and will keep an accurate record of all provisions bought from any source. He will have an inventory taken of all provisions on board on the last day of each fiscal quarter and submit this inventory along with the Ration Record to the Commanding Officer.

The duties of the Commissary Officer are more fully delineated in Article 2640-1(c) Bureau S&A Manual.

Nothing contained in the foregoing, however, should be interpreted to relieve the Commanding Officer of his definite final responsibility relative to accountability for stores and any over-expenditure of ration allowance. (See S&A Manual, Article 2640-1(b)).

8-2 PERSONNEL:-

(a) Ship's Cooks

There are two ship's cooks assigned to the LSM.

(b) Mess Cooks

The Deck Forces will assign two non-rated men and the Engineering Force one non-rated man as mess cooks. These men will serve as mess cooks for a period of three months.

(c) Steward's Mates

There are two steward's mates assigned to the LSM.

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8-3 DUTIES:-

(a) Ship's Cooks

The ship's cooks, under the Gunnery Officer (Commissary and Stores Officer), are directly responsible for the proper preparation and the orderly issue of all food served on board.

The senior cook will be in charge of the galley and all personnel assigned thereto. He will be responsible for the proper performance of duty of all ship's cooks, mess cooks and other personnel attached to the galley.

He will be responsible for the cleanliness of the galley, issue room, bread locker, commissary stores rooms, cold storage spaces, and all utensils and equipment used in the preparation and serving of food.

Ship's cooks will wear clean white uniforms when on duty. At frequent intervals they will be inspected by the Pharmacist Mate for contagious diseases.

The duties of the senior cook are more fully prescribed in Article 2640-1(d), Bureau S&A Manual.

(b) Mess Cooks

Mess cooks will come under the senior ship's cook. They will not be assigned any other duties while serving as mess cooks except those assigned them under "All Hands" evolutions.

One mess cook will be assigned for general galley duty. He will assist the ship's cooks as needed and act as sculleryman.

One mess cook will be assigned to the forward crew's compartment, A-208L, starboard, and one mess cook to the after crew's compartment, A-210L, port side. These mess cooks will be responsible for:-

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8-3 DUTIES:-

(b) (cont'd.)

(1) Setting up and taking down of the mess tables and benches in their respective compartments before and after each meal.

(2) Cleanliness of mess tables and benches and the gear and garnishments provided therefor.

(3) At meal time, they will draw rations from the galley for the men assigned to their mess (See TABLE 8-1). These rations will be carried to the messing compartments in special food carriers provided for this purpose and each man will be served his ration at his mess table.

(4) Upon the completion of each meal, the two mess cooks will clean their tables and benches and carry all soiled trays, bowls, cups and other mess gear to the galley.

(5) They will assist the galley mess cook with the washing and drying of this mess gear after which they will return it to the proper stowage places.

(6) They will provide a GI can for their respective compartments for the disposal of all refuse and garbage incidental to their mess. They will empty and clean these cans after each meal.

All mess cooks will wear clean white uniforms when on duty. They will be inspected by the Pharmacist Mate for contagious diseases at regular intervals.

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8-3 DUTIES:-

(c) Steward's Mates

The steward's mates will be assigned to duty in the officer's quarters.

It will be their duty to serve the Officers Mess at meal time and to do all other work connected therewith.

They will also be responsible for making up the berths and the cleanliness of the wardroom country including the officer's washroom and toilet.

All steward's mates will wear white uniforms while on duty. They will be inspected by the Pharmacist Mate at regular intervals for contagious diseases.

8-4 OFFICER'S MESS:-

The ship's officers will be subsisted on board from the General Mess. (See Bureau of Supplies and Accounts Circular letter of 19 August, 1943; Bureau S&A letter L16-8(SBB-2); L16-8(1)/L10-5).

Officer's rations will be drawn from the ship's galley by the steward's mates and served to them in the wardroom.

These rations will be the same in kind, quality and quantity as those served to the crew.

Should the officers wish to establish their own mess apart from the General Mess it shall be done in strict accordance with Naval Regulations, Article 1439.

8-5 CREW'S MESS:-

The crew will mess by Watch Sections, in port and at sea. The section off duty will mess first and will be followed by the Watch Section when it has been relieved. Immediately upon completing his meal, each man will scrape what he has left into the GI can provided for this purpose and clear the messing compartment until the meal has been concluded and the compartment cleaned and in order.

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8-5 CREW'S MESS:-

There are facilities for serving, at one sitting, 12 men in compartment A-208L, starboard, and 10 men in compartment A-210L, port.

TABLE 8-1 shows the messing assignment, by Watch Sections, for every man in the crew.

Compartment cleaners will see that messing spaces are cleared before each meal and promptly after each meal in order that tables and benches may be cleaned by the mess cooks and the compartments swept down by the compartment cleaners.

In fair weather and in warm climates and when there are no troops or excessive cargo on board, the Commanding Officer may permit the crew to mess on the topside, Tank Well Deck, between frames 14 and 17, port to starboard.

8-6 TROOP'S MESS:-

When troops are aboard they will ordinarily be subsisted from the ship's General Mess.

The same routine will be followed as used for serving the crew.

Troops will mess in compartment A-208L, port side, where 12 men can be messed at one sitting. The troop commander will prepare a messing assignment list for all troops on board similar to the messing assignments for the crew as given in TABLE 8-1. Troop police officers will be appointed to see that the troops are messed in accordance with this list and that an orderly line is maintained by those waiting to be messed. Troop KP's will also be assigned to serve the troop's mess, to clean the messing tables, benches and compartment and to assist the ship's cooks in the galley as required.

Each man will be responsible for the cleaning of his own mess kit at the proper place provided for this purpose.

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8-8

RAT

CBM

Cox

Sea1

Sea1

Sea2

Sea2

Sea2

RM1c

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8-7 MESS TIME:-

Mess gear will be sounded five minutes before each meal is served.

Under normal conditions, the General Mess will be served beginning at the following times:

Breakfast	0730
Dinner	1130
Supper	1730 (at sea)

TABLE 8-1

8-8

MESSING ASSIGNMENTS

FIRST SECTION		MESSING COMPARTMENT	SECOND SECTION	
RATE	BILLET NO.		RATE	BILLET NO.
CBM	D-11	Compartment A-208L	BM1c	D-31
Cox	D-12	Compartment A-210L	BM2c	D-21
Sealc	D-13	Compartment A-208L	GM2c	D-32
Sealc	D-14	Compartment A-210L	Sealc	D-22
Sea2c	D-15	Compartment A-208L	Sealc	D-33
Sea2c	D-34	Compartment A-208L - Mess Cook	Sea2c	D-23
Sea2c	D-35	Compartment A-210L - Mess Cook	Sea2c	D-24
RM1c	SC-11	Compartment A-208L	RM2c	SC-21

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TABLE 8-1 (cont'd.)

MESSING ASSIGNMENTS

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FIRST SECTION		MESSING COMPARTMENT	SECOND SECTION	
RATE	BILLET NO.		RATE	BILLET NO.
RM3c	SC-33	Compartment A-210L	RdM3c	SC-24
RdM2c	SC-13	Compartment A-208L	RT2c	SC-32
QM1c	SC-31	Compartment A-210L	QM3c	SC-22
SM2c	SC-12	Compartment A-208L	SM3c	SC-23
Y2c	S-11	Compartment A-208L	SK1c	S-21
SC1c	S-32	Galley	SC3c	S-22
StM2c	S-12	Wardroom	StM1c	S-33
MoMM1c	E-11	Compartment A-208L	PhM1c	S-31
MoMM1c	E-12	Compartment A-210L	CMoMM	E-21
MoMM2c	E-31	Compartment A-208L	MoMM2c	E-22
EM2c	E-13	Compartment A-208L	MoMM2c	E-32
EM3c	E-23	Compartment A-210L	EM1c	E-33
MoMM3c	E-14	Compartment A-210L	MoMM3c	E-24

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8-8

RA
FL
FL
F2
PL



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TABLE 8-1 (cont'd.)

MESSING ASSIGNMENTS

8-8

FIRST SECTION		MESSING COMPARTMENT	SECOND SECTION	
RATE	BILLET NO.		RATE	BILLET NO.
F1c	E-15	Galley - Mess Cook	MoMM3c	E-34
F1c	E-35	Compartment A-208L	F1c	E-25
F2c	E-16	Compartment A-210L	F2c	E-26

For further information concerning Messing Bill, see  
PLATE I.

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