

UNCLASSIFIED

AD NUMBER	
AD024872	
CLASSIFICATION CHANGES	
TO:	unclassified
FROM:	confidential
LIMITATION CHANGES	
TO:	Approved for public release, distribution unlimited
FROM:	Distribution authorized to U.S. Gov't. agencies and their contractors; Administrative/Operational Use; AUG 1952. Other requests shall be referred to Office of Naval Research, Arlington, VA 22217.
AUTHORITY	
31 Aug 1964, DoDD 5200.10; ONR, Via ltr, 13 Sep 1977	

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

# UNCLASSIFIED

---

---

*Reproduced  
by the*

ARMED SERVICES TECHNICAL INFORMATION AGENCY  
ARLINGTON HALL STATION  
ARLINGTON 12, VIRGINIA



DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9

---

# UNCLASSIFIED

---

# Armed Services Technical Information Agency

10

PLEASE RETURN THIS COPY TO:

ARMED SERVICES TECHNICAL INFORMATION AGENCY  
DOCUMENT SERVICE CENTER  
Knott Building, Dayton 2, Ohio

Because of our limited supply you are requested to return this copy as soon as it has served your purposes so that it may be made available to others for reference use. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

24872

NOTICE: WHEN GOVERNMENT OR OTHER DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS OR OTHER DATA ARE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN IN CONNECTION WITH A DEFINITELY RELATED GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OPERATION, THE U. S. GOVERNMENT THEREBY INCURS NO RESPONSIBILITY, NOR ANY OBLIGATION WHATSOEVER; AND THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE FORMULATED, FURNISHED, OR IN ANY WAY SUPPLIED THE SAID DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS, OR OTHER DATA IS NOT TO BE REGARDED BY ANY PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR OTHERWISE AS IN ANY MANNER LICENSING THE HOLDER OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR CORPORATION, OR CONVEYING ANY RIGHTS OR PERMISSION TO MANUFACTURE, REPRODUCE OR SELL ANY PATENTED INVENTION THAT MAY IN ANY WAY BE RELATED THERE TO.

Reproduced by  
**DOCUMENT SERVICE CENTER**  
KNOTT BUILDING, DAYTON, 2, OHIO

---

**NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE  
NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING  
OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTIONS 793 and 794.  
THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN  
ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.**

---

AD NO. 24872  
ASTIA FILE COPY

Harbor Protection Project  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut

Technical Memorandum No. 10  
(HPP-BT-100:Ser 043)  
18 August 1952

Harbor Defense Units  
by  
L. W. McKeehan

CONFIDENTIAL  
SECURITY INFORMATION



54AA-6912

## **REPRODUCTION QUALITY NOTICE**

**This document is the best quality available. The copy furnished to DTIC contained pages that may have the following quality problems:**

- **Pages smaller or larger than normal.**
- **Pages with background color or light colored printing.**
- **Pages with small type or poor printing; and or**
- **Pages with continuous tone material or color photographs.**

**Due to various output media available these conditions may or may not cause poor legibility in the microfiche or hardcopy output you receive.**

☐ **If this block is checked, the copy furnished to DTIC contained pages with color printing, that when reproduced in Black and White, may change detail of the original copy.**

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Sections 793 and 794. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

## Harbor Defense Units

L. W. McKeehan

1. It appears to be current doctrine in the USN that a Harbor Defense Unit is responsible only for the effective use of fixed harbor defense equipment, including controlled mines, in its assigned area. It is obviously assumed that knowledge of the capabilities of standard equipment of this kind, plus information readily obtainable in the area, will permit planning of suitable installations by naval district officers, guided by sea frontier officers, so that the whole responsibility of the Officer-in-Charge of a Harbor Defense Unit is with respect to the readiness of material and of personnel to make, maintain and operate fixed and relatively conventional installations. No more active or flexible kind of harbor defense is his concern. It is suggested that this doctrine requires revision.
2. The junior rank of present Officers in Charge of HDU's, and their frequent transfers to new areas or to new duties make it unrealistic to suppose that they can, in fact, learn much about their harbors or contribute much to planning their over-all defenses. This is especially obvious with respect to planning for mine countermeasures as an integral part of harbor defense, the responsibility for mine countermeasures being presently scattered between commands afloat and ashore. Success in this part of



mine warfare requires combinations of training and experience relatively hard to find in one person.

3. It is believed that great economy of means, in the military sense, would result from a change in doctrine with respect to Harbor Defense Units which would emphasize their important standby function, now taken for granted (contrary to fact), in obtaining pertinent local data for sound planning of harbor defenses of all kinds and in otherwise assisting such planning.

4. It is suggested that the primary peace-time responsibility of each HDU should be the collection in an assigned area of precise data upon which harbor defense planning may be based. Such data includes details of hydrography, topography, meteorology and man-made structures and practices which affect the functions of that harbor under plausible types and amounts of enemy attack. Local collection and evaluation of these data would permit district and frontier staffs to recommend proper deployment of naval vessels, personnel and equipment and proper cooperation by other armed forces in meeting any type of emergency, as well as in maintaining a reasonable state of readiness during relatively peaceful conditions.

5. In order to effectuate the new doctrine, each important HDU would have to be furnished with items of equipment, including

SECURITY INFORMATION

boats, which are now hardly available at all, and which are in such short supply that the collection of probably useful data and the relocation or reconditioning of channels and approaches which such data make advisable will take many years unless greatly accelerated.

6. Consistently with the increase in local responsibility here suggested, the OIC of each important HDU should be a competent and relatively senior officer, not lower in rank than Commander, who is available for a long term of duty at one place, and he should be supported by several junior officers with special training in phases of harbor defense which are found to be important in that area. The OIC should be competent to assume the duties of Harbor Entrance Control Officer at his home station in emergencies, and his juniors should, similarly, be available for command of local operations then required in its defense.

7. The advantage obtainable by previous study of a probable battleground has been frequently noted in military history. The same advantage can and should be obtained in Defense against Mine Warfare (now the most critical part of Harbor Defense) where the battlegrounds are fore-ordained and where, as is not the case at sea or in the air, there is almost no way to select a favorable weapon or position for defense on the spur of the moment.

SECURITY INFORMATION

It is further suggested that the study should be conducted in a manner which would be expected to have no effect on the morale of the personnel involved. It is not to be a propaganda exercise, but a study for selected officers to begin the corresponding study of harbor defense in selected foreign harbors. Since the officers should not be trained, and the study should be unobtrusively conducted, all need careful study as a study. The setting up of a study group at the Naval War College is a possibility.

L. W. McKeehan  
Edwards Street Laboratory  
Yale University

CONFIDENTIAL  
SECURITY INFORMATION

Best Available Copy