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U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY
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NAVSUPPACT NAPLES INST 1754.7
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NAVSUPPACT NAPLES INSTRUCTION 1754.7

From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy

Subj: SUPERVISION OF MINOR CHILDREN

Ref: (a) U. S. Navy Regulations, 1990, 0702
(b) NAVSUPPACT NAPLES INST 5800.3 (Series)
(c) OPNAVINST 1740.4 (Series)

Encl: (1) Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy Child Supervision Chart

1. Purpose. To promulgate procedures and expectations for the supervision of minor children residing on or visiting personnel residing on U. S. Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPPACT), Naples, Italy.

2. Definitions

a. Child. A child is an unmarried person 17 years of age or under, or one that is incapable of self support due to mental or physical incapacity. This includes a biological child, adopted child, foster child, stepchild or ward; this excludes active duty members and spouses.

b. Minor Guest. A minor guest is a child visitor who is temporarily residing with a member of the Armed Forces, Department of Defense civilian or family member, thereof.

c. Child Neglect. Child neglect is a lack of supervision involving inattention to a child's minimal needs for safety, food, shelter, clothing, medical/dental care, education or well-being, regardless of whether intentional or negligent. The term encompasses both acts and omissions on the part of the responsible person.

d. Supervision. Supervision is the monitoring of the child's whereabouts and activities per his/her maturity level and with regard to the child's mental and physical capabilities in order to ensure his/her safety and well-being.

3. Scope

a. This instruction is applicable to all U.S. personnel, military or civilian assigned to NAVSUPPACT Naples, Italy and family members and guests thereof and is a lawful general order. This instruction is not intended to and does not create any rights,

entitlements; nor does it confer defenses in favor of any individual. It places no limits on the lawful prerogative of the Commanding Officer, NAVSUPPACT Naples, Italy or its officials. Authority to implement this policy derives from reference (a).

b. Moral and legal obligations require appropriate measures to safeguard the welfare of children by ensuring they are not left unsupervised in a situation that exceeds their maturity level. Parent and guardians have primary responsibility for appropriate and adequate supervision of their minor family members and guests at all times, whether on or off base, to ensure they are safe and they pose no danger to themselves, others or the public peace by their actions.

c. Violations of this policy may lead to administrative or disciplinary action. Every effort will be made to handle alleged violations with maximum deference to parental rights. However, cases of child neglect will be referred to the appropriate chain of command, and the Family Advocacy Program (FAP), as appropriate. Military members who violate the provisions of this instruction may be prosecuted for violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and may be subject to other administrative action. Civilians who violate this instruction shall be subject to administrative action as defined in reference (b).

4. Discussion. The overseas community differs from CONUS military and civilian environments in many ways, CONUS Commanding Officers seldom become aware of minor children's misconduct through official channels, as in most cases primary responsibility for child law enforcement resides with the state. At OCONUS installations, the Commanding Officer is responsible for safety and law enforcement. Per references (a and b), it is incumbent on the Commanding Officer to ensure the safety and welfare of minor children.

5. Guidelines

a. To the maximum extent possible, parents and guardians are required to know the whereabouts of their children and minor guests 24 hours a day.

b. To the maximum extent possible, parents and guardians should be aware of the intended activities and schedules of their children and minor guests.

c. Parents and guardians whose children and minor guests participate in unofficial extracurricular activities or gatherings at locations other than Moral Welfare and Recreation (MWR) or Department

of Defense Schools (DoDDS) facilities are encouraged to communicate with each other to ensure adequate supervision.

d. Defiance of base guidelines may be cause for referral to the FAP for services, but is not necessarily considered neglectful behavior unless the alleged act or omission meets the criteria set for the in the definitions for child neglect set forth by DoD.

e. Participation in Italian cultural events is encouraged. However, it is recommended that parents and guardians implement reasonable safeguards as warranted by the situation to ensure the proper conduct, health and safety of their children and minor dependents.

f. Parents and guardians will discourage their children and minor guests from loitering in unsupervised locations. The entire community should be vigilant of unsupervised activity of children.

6. Supervision. Primary responsibility for supervision of minor children is with the parent/guardian. Parents are responsible for the behavior, safety and proper discipline and well being of their children, regardless of age. A minor child violating the restrictions listed below will be detained by base security until his or her parent or guardian comes to assume custody. The following general restrictions apply to all minor children. Parents should assess their child's developmental and maturity levels, and if necessary raise the minimum age limits listed below to ensure the safety and well being of their child. A supervision chart can be found in enclosure (1) of this instruction.

a. Children new-born to 4 years of age may not be left unattended in quarters, playground areas, or outside of quarters for any length of time and should never be left unattended in a vehicle.

b. Children ages 5 and 6 years of age may be outside the quarters unattended with an adult within hearing or visual contact.

c. Children 6 years of age and older may walk to and from school without the supervision of an adult. Children 5 years of age and younger must be escorted to and form school by someone who is at least 9 years of age.

d. Children between 7 and 9 years of age may not be left unattended in a car, left alone overnight or care for younger children, to include siblings. Children between 7 and 9 years of age may be:

(1) Left unattended in quarters for short periods of time with

access to an adult by telephone or a neighbor close by who has knowledge the child is unattended.

(2) Unattended in public areas with an adult within hearing or visual contact.

e. Children between 10 and 15 years of age may be left unattended in quarters, playground areas and outside the quarters. Children between 10 and 15 years of age may walk to and from school, and be unattended in public areas.

f. Children 12 years of age and older may care for younger children. All children who wish to babysit are strongly encouraged to complete the babysitting course offered by the American Red Cross.

(1) Children under 12 years of age are not allowed to babysit, including younger siblings.

(2) Babysitters between 12 and 15 years of age may not supervise children past 2400 and are not allowed to babysit overnight.

(3) Adolescents 14 to 15 years of age who have completed the American Red Cross babysitting course are eligible to babysit until 0200, if the parents of the babysitter and the parents of the child concur the babysitter has the maturity for this responsibility.

g. Adolescents 16 years of age and above may:

(1) Be left unattended in quarters and all outside areas.

(2) Babysit other children to include overnight.

(3) Be left in quarters when parents or guardians are on vacation or TAD with telephone access to an adult who can provide assistance, if needed. Vacations or TAD should not exceed two weeks.

h. A designated adult should be capable of responding in person within a reasonable amount of time to any child left unattended. Personality, environment, developmental progress, and maturity levels are factors parents must consider when determining whether children are ready to accomplish activities with little or no supervision. Parents should assess their child's maturity and, if necessary, raise the minimum age limits outlined above.

7. Specific Restrictions

a. Barracks. Barracks are off limits to all children under the age of 18 years.

b. Pools. Children 9 years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult or a person authorized to babysit. Children 10 to 12 years of age must pass a swim test administered by MWR lifeguards to come to the pool unsupervised.

c. Theaters. In accordance with MWR policy, movie ratings shall be enforced. Children 12 years of age and younger must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. No children under 10 years of age will be admitted to R-rated movies. Admittance to R-rated movies for adolescents less than 17 years of age requires an accompanying parent or other adult.

d. Playground School Age Care. Due to the accountability requirements of the School Age Program (SAC), all patrons utilizing the Youth Center playground must sign in when SAC is present and all children under the age of 11 must be accompanied by a person 12 years older.

e. Parents, Guardians, TAD and Leave. Personnel in these categories are not exempted from ensuring minor children are supervised per this regulation. Members are expected to fully comply with this instruction and reference (c). Powers of attorney shall be executed when leaving children with a guardian for more than 24 hours. If a minor 16 years of age and above is left without adult supervision for more than 24 hours and the parent/guardian is traveling more than a 100 mile radius from their domicile, the parent/guardian shall execute a medical power of attorney to a designated adult who can act on behalf of the adolescent. The U.S. Navy Legal Services Office Europe and Southwest Asia is available to draft and notarize these powers of attorney. Members are required to fully brief their designated caregiver on financial arrangements, logistical arrangements, location of important papers and significant medical/dental issues and to provide the designated adult a copy of the medical power of attorney, if executed.

R. B. RABUSE

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# NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY NAPLES, ITALY CHILD SUPERVISION CHART

Parents are responsible for the behavior, safety, proper discipline and well being of their children, regardless of age. Parents should assess their child's developmental and maturity levels, and if necessary raise the minimum age limits outlined below.

| Age of Child | Left unattended in quarters | Left unattended in car | Baby-sit others | Unattended in public areas* | Walk to school | Left in quarters overnight/ vacation/TAD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New born to 4 years | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO |
| 5 to 6 years | NO | NO | NO | YES (With an adult within hearing or visual contact) | YES* | NO |
| 7-9 years | NO (May be left for short periods of time with access to an adult) | NO | NO | YES (With an adult within hearing or visual contact) | YES | NO |
| 10-15 years | YES | YES | YES** | YES | YES | NO |
| 16+ years | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES (With telephone access to an adult; power of attorney may be required) |

Notes:

* Children 6 years of age and older may walk to and from school without the supervision of an adult. Children 5 years of age and younger must be escorted to and from school by someone who is at least 9 years of age.

** Children under 12 years of age will not babysit other children, including their siblings. Baby sitters 12 to 15 years of age may supervise until 2400 but are not allowed to sit all night. Adolescents age 14 and 15 years of age who have completed the Red Cross babysitting course are eligible to babysit until 0200.

For additional information the NAVSUPPACT NAPLES INSTRUCTION 1754.7 can be found at:
https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Naples/Departments/Administration/Instructions/index/htm