

Some Navy Terminology

When a “man of war” is steaming independently from point A to point B and a situation arises that requires that ship to take action, she has to send this to the next senior, UNODIR. Which means “unless otherwise directed I am doing - - -.” Better known as “YOU KNOW DEAR”!

When steaming independently and the ship comes across another U.S. Navy ship, the junior ship sends the following, “Request permission to proceed on duty assigned.” If he doesn’t need you, which is the case most of the time, you proceed. The “Blue Book” determines who is senior by the “lineal” number. Each U.S. Navy officer is assigned a lineal number to establish seniority.

Submitted by CAPT Ace Trask, USN RET