



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 3150.6

January 19, 2001

DA&M

SUBJECT: United States Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff

- References:
- (a) National Security Decision Directive 281, "United States Nuclear Weapons Command and Control," August 21, 1987
 - (b) DoD Directive 3150.6, "United States Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff," February 3, 1988 (hereby canceled)
 - (c) Section 19 of title 3, United States Code
 - (d) [DoD Directive 8910.1](#), "Management and Control of Information Requirements," June 11, 1993

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Pursuant to reference (a) and the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense, establishes the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff under the direction, authority, and control of the Secretary of Defense, who also serves as the Executive Agent for the Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS) (hereafter referred to as "Executive Agent").

1.2. Reissues reference (b) to update the responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities of the U.S. NCCS Support Staff (NSS) and its Director, and those of the Executive Review Committee (ERC).

1.3. Reauthorizes the DoD NCCS ERC in support of the Secretary of Defense.

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Nuclear Command and Control (NC2). The exercise of authority and direction by the President, as Commander in Chief, through established command lines, over nuclear weapon operations of military forces; as Chief Executive over all Government activities that support those operations; and, as Head of State over required multinational actions that support those operations. The NCCS supports the exercise of authority and direction by the President.

3.2. Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS). The designated combination of flexible and enduring elements including facilities, equipment, communications, procedures, personnel, and the structure in which these elements are integrated, all of which are essential for planning, directing, and controlling nuclear weapon operations of military forces and the activities that support those operations. The purpose of the NCCS shall be to provide the President with all capabilities required to exercise his authority over nuclear weapons operations.

3.3. Positive Measures. Those measures taken expressly for the purpose of ensuring the control, safety, or security of nuclear weapons.

3.4. President. Under this Directive, includes an official who succeeds to the Office of the Presidency under the Constitution and under 3 U.S.C. 19 (reference (c)).

3.5. Principal NC2 Decision-Makers. Principal NC2 decision-makers are as designated in reference (a).

4. MISSION

The NSS is Presidentially chartered to support the Secretary of Defense in his role as the Executive Agent of the NCCS. As the single agency tasked to provide independent oversight of the NCCS, the NSS supports the Executive Agent by assessing and

monitoring the NCCS; developing an integrated NCCS architecture; reviewing NCCS-related policies, overseeing inspections, tests, and exercises of the NCCS; and, providing the Executive Agent with an Annual Report on the status and condition of the NCCS.

5. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

5.1 The NSS shall consist of a Director and such subordinate organizational elements as are established by the Director within the resources authorized by the Secretary of Defense.

5.1.1. The Commander in Chief, United States Strategic Command, shall also serve as the Director, NSS.

5.1.2. The Deputy Director, NSS, shall be a Colonel/Captain (O-6) or above nominated by the Director, NSS, through the CJCS, for approval by the Executive Agent.

5.1.3. Other members of the NSS shall be selected by the Director, NSS.

5.1.4. At least 50 percent of the professional staff of the NSS shall be military personnel.

5.2. Administrative support (to include funding, facilities, personnel authorizations, information technology, and associated resources or services as may be required to accomplish the mission of the NSS) shall be provided or arranged for by the United States Strategic Command.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

6.1. The Director, NSS, reporting directly to the Executive Agent, shall:

6.1.1. Organize, direct, and manage the NSS in accordance with its assigned functions and responsibilities.

6.1.2. Conduct unified Federal Government planning to coordinate NC2 research, development, acquisition, and integration of an NCCS architecture for effective and responsive command and control of nuclear weapons.

6.1.3. Recommend to the Executive Agent for decision by the President the assignment of specific NC2 responsibilities to Federal Government Departments, Agencies, and activities and recommend changes in composition or structure of the NCCS.

6.1.4. Ensure effective liaison is established with Federal Government NCCS components.

6.1.5. Assess and monitor the NCCS on a continuing basis.

6.1.6. Ensure an NCCS architecture is developed and maintained that is both integrated with the existing Joint Technical Architecture and is evolutionary so that it can meet current and future requirements for consideration by the Executive Agent. The individual systems provided by Federal Government Departments, Agencies, and activities with NC2 responsibilities and, when applicable, allies and/or alliances, shall be used within the system architecture.

6.1.7. Propose to the Executive Agent initiatives that should compete for funding through normal budget processes within the Department of Defense and other Federal Government Departments, Agencies, and activities with NC2 responsibilities.

6.1.8. Develop for the Executive Agent alternative proposals for funding NCCS initiatives that affect multiple Departments, Agencies, or activities within the Federal Government.

6.1.9. Conduct or initiate technical studies or analyses and examine research and development programs for identifying improvements to the NCCS for Executive Agent consideration.

6.1.10. Provide oversight of NC2 studies and analyses in order to preclude duplication of effort by Federal Government Departments, Agencies, and activities.

6.1.11. Monitor the status of initiatives and integration efforts to ensure the NCCS meets the objectives and fulfills the policies under reference (a).

6.1.12. Undertake periodic reviews of NCCS-related policy and guidance and make recommendations for changes.

6.1.13. Provide oversight for inspecting, testing, and exercising the NCCS to ensure it meets the intent of reference (a).

6.1.14. Recommend to the Executive Agent NCCS priorities to meet system architectural requirements, and through the Executive Agent, monitor their fulfillment by the responsible Federal Government Departments, Agencies, or other activities.

6.1.15. In coordination with all applicable officials and organizations and pursuant to reference (a), provide recommendations on NC2 matters to the Executive Agent, as needed. For those issues and recommendations that have a potential or actual impact on the operations of military forces, coordination shall include the CJCS.

6.1.16. Provide to the DoD NCCS ERC, or any other forums the Executive Agent may elect to use, information on pertinent NC2 actions or recommendations submitted to the Executive Agent.

6.1.17. Prepare and submit an annual status report to the Executive Agent on mission performance and prepare and submit other reports as directed by the Executive Agent.

6.1.18. Perform other duties as periodically assigned by the President or the Executive Agent.

6.2. The Department of Defense Nuclear Command and Control System Executive Review Committee (DoD NCCS ERC) is established to assist the Secretary of Defense in the execution of NCCS responsibilities assigned to the Department of Defense by reference (a), to advise the Secretary of Defense on DoD-related matters on the NCCS, and to review any DoD position developed for presentation to other forums.

6.2.1. The ERC shall be chaired by the Vice Chairman, JCS, and shall include the following as members:

6.2.1.1. Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics).

6.2.1.2. Under Secretary of Defense (Policy).

6.2.1.3. Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer.

6.2.1.4. Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence)/Chief Information Officer.

6.2.1.5. Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs).

6.2.1.6. Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation.

6.2.1.7. Director, Operations Directorate (J-3).

6.2.1.8. Director, Command, Control, and Communications Systems Directorate (J-6).

6.2.1.9. A representative of each Military Service, as designated by the Secretaries of the Military Departments.

6.2.1.10. Other government officials, as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Defense.

6.2.2. The ERC shall review any DoD-associated NC2 actions or recommendations presented to the Executive Agent by the Director, NSS, and shall provide recommendations on such actions for consideration by the Secretary of Defense.

6.2.3. In the process of developing those recommendations, the committee shall consider the positions of all organizations within the Department of Defense that have an interest in the matter. For those actions with potential for impact on the operations of military forces, the committee recommendations shall include the CJCS position. The DoD office of primary responsibility for any NC2 matter being presented to other forums is responsible for obtaining the DoD position on the matter and supporting an ERC review before presentation.

6.3. The Executive Agent may choose to use other forums, such as an interagency group, to advise and assist him or her in the execution of assigned NCCS responsibilities, other than those exclusively associated with the Department of Defense. Such forums normally shall include as members, depending on the topic under discussion, representatives from the Departments of State, Defense, Justice, and Energy; the Executive Office of the President; Director, Central Intelligence; and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Such forums, as applicable, review appropriate NCCS actions or recommendations being presented to the Executive Agent by the Director, NSS, and provide recommendations to the Executive Agent on such actions.

7. RELATIONSHIPS

7.1. In the performance of assigned functions, the Director, NSS, shall:

7.1.1. Coordinate with organizational elements of the Department of Defense and other Federal Government NCCS Components and appropriate allies and/or alliances that have collateral or related responsibilities and functions.

7.1.2. Make use of established facilities and services in the Department of Defense and other Federal Government Departments and Agencies, wherever practical, to avoid duplication and to achieve maximum efficiency and economy.

7.2. The Heads of DoD Components shall coordinate with the Director, NSS, on all matters relating to NSS responsibilities and functions.

8. AUTHORITIES

The Director, NSS, or designee, is hereby delegated authority to:

8.1. Obtain from DoD Components such advice, assistance, reports, and information, consistent with the policies and criteria of DoD Directive 8910.1 (reference (d)) to carry out NSS programs and activities.


8.2. Communicate directly with appropriate officials in the DoD Components, other Federal Government Departments, Agencies, and activities, allies and/or alliances, and appropriate non-government organizations, as necessary, on NSS programs and activities.

8.3. Issue NSS memoranda pertaining to NSS responsibilities and functions.

8.4. Request reports, information, and assistance, including personnel, from the Federal Government Departments and Agencies participating in the NCCS, when necessary.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rudy de Leon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Rudy de Leon
Deputy Secretary of Defense