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April 14, 1972
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Department of Defense Directive

SUBJECT Employment of Department of Defense Resources
in Support of the United States Postal Service

- Refs.:
- (a) DoD Directive 4500.25, "Coordination of Department of Defense Military Mail Transportation and Services Policy," March 2, 1956
 - (b) DoD Directive 5030.11, "Postal Agreement Between the Post Office Department and the Department of Defense," March 5, 1959
 - (c) DoD Directive 1235.10, "Mobilization of the Ready Reserve," October 27, 1970

I. PURPOSE

This Directive establishes uniform Department of Defense policies, assigns responsibilities, and furnishes general guidance on the use of Department of Defense resources to assist the United States Postal Service (USPS) to safeguard, process, and deliver the mail when ordered by the President. It provides the basis for the Secretary of the Army, as Executive Agent, to assign joint planning responsibilities for rendering assistance to the USPS and, when ordered, to direct the provision of that assistance.

II. APPLICABILITY

- A. The provisions of this Directive apply to the Military Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, and all Defense Agencies (hereinafter referred to collectively as DoD Components) having cognizance over resources which may be used under the provisions of this Directive.

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- B. The provisions of this Directive do not abrogate the policies, guidance or responsibilities established by DoD Directives 4500.25 and 5030.11 (references (a) and (b)).

III. DEFINITION

As used in this Directive, resources include military and civilian personnel, facilities, equipment, and supplies under the control of DoD components.

IV. POLICY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Authority. Legal authority for the employment of military resources at the direction of the President to reestablish and maintain essential postal service may be found in section 686 of Title 31, U.S. Code, and section 411 of Title 39, U.S. Code.
- B. Executive Agent. The Secretary of the Army is designated Executive Agent for the DoD in all matters relating to the planning for, and when directed, the deployment and employment of DoD resources to assist the USPS in restoring and maintaining essential mail service in CONUS.
- C. Funding. The incremental costs related to DoD resources provided to the USPS under the provisions of this Directive will be provided on a reimbursable basis. DoD components will forward requests for reimbursement to the Department of the Army in accordance with procedures established under D. 1., below. The Department of the Army will consolidate cost reports and forward them to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).
- D. Responsibilities. In carrying out the provisions of this Directive, responsibilities and functions are delineated as follows:

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1. The Secretary of the Army or his designee is responsible for:
 - a. Providing policy and direction governing plans, procedures, and requirements to all DoD components having cognizance over DoD resources which may be employed under the provisions of this Directive.
 - b. Establishing procedures for consolidating and forwarding to the USPS requests for reimbursement for assistance provided under the provisions of this Directive.
 - c. Consistent with the provisions of DoD Directive 1235.10 (reference (c)), establishing policies and procedures for:
 - (1) Calling the National Guard to active Federal service and ordering the National Guard and other Reserve components to active duty; and
 - (2) The employment of such forces that may be required to carry out the purposes of this Directive.
 - d. Calling or ordering to active Federal service:
 - (1) The Army Reserve Component units or members required to carry out the provisions of the Presidential directive, Secretary of Defense instruction, or other appropriate authority.
 - (2) Through the appropriate Military Department Secretaries, units or individuals of the reserve components of the Navy, Marine

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Corps, and Air Force required to carry out the provisions of the Presidential directive, Secretary of Defense instruction, or other appropriate authority, subject to the provisions of D. 3 and 4 below.

- e. Providing resources of the United States Army, consistent with DoD policies and priorities, to include:
 - (1) The resources of the Army National Guard called to active Federal service under the provisions of D. 1. d above.
 - (2) The resources of the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard ordered to active duty to carry out the purposes of this Directive.
- f. Exercising through designated military commanders the direction of resources committed or assigned to assist the USPS.
- g. Devising command, control and communications arrangements to insure effective coordination and responsiveness among DoD components under conditions of pre-positioning, deployment, or employment of military resources. Maximum utilization will be made of existing reports of the Joint Reporting Structure (JRS), as prescribed in JCS Pub. 6.^{1/} Arrangements and reports affecting commanders of unified and specified commands will be coordinated with the JCS.

1/ Copies available from the Office of the Secretary, Joint Chiefs of Staff (Documents Division), Washington, D. C. 20301.

- h. Keeping the Secretary of Defense informed of unusual DoD resource requirements (actual or potential) and other significant developments in connection with postal assistance planning and operations.
2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff are responsible for establishing procedures that will promptly transfer active resources that are assigned to unified and specified commands to the military departments for postal augmentation operations in the continental United States (CONUS) as required by the DoD Executive Agent and consistent with DoD priorities.
3. The Secretary of the Air Force is responsible for:
 - a. Providing resources of the United States Air Force, as required by the DoD Executive Agent and consistent with DoD policies and priorities, to include:
 - (1) Designating and providing the specific units or members of the Air National Guard to be called to active Federal service under the provisions D. 1. d(2) above.
 - (2) Designating and providing the resources of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve ordered to active duty to carry out the purposes of this Directive.
 - b. Exercising, for the DoD Executive Agent through designated military commanders, coordinating authority over and direction of DoD provided military and commercial obligated airlift resources, excluding Army, Navy and Marine Corps helicopter resources/operations, used to fulfill postal augmentation airlift requirements.

- c. Providing airlift to deploy and redeploy postal augmentation forces and for supply, resupply, and aeromedical evacuation.
4. The Secretary of the Navy is responsible for:
- a. Designating and providing resources of the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps, as required by the DoD Executive Agent and consistent with DoD policies and priorities, including the resources of the Naval Reserve and the Marine Corps Reserve ordered to active duty to carry out the purposes of this Directive.
 - b. Making airlift resources available to the Secretary of the Air Force, consistent with DoD priorities, as requested by him in the accomplishment of his airlift responsibilities set forth in 3. c. above.
5. The Defense Agencies are responsible for providing resources as required, and advice and assistance on matters within their spheres of responsibility, consistent with DoD priorities, to the DoD Executive Agent and to the Secretaries of the military departments and to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the discharge of their responsibilities.
6. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) is responsible for all Department of Defense public affairs matters related to DoD assistance to the USPS in restoring and maintaining essential postal service. To assure efficiency and responsiveness in keeping the public fully informed, he will provide direction and guidance to the Department of Defense Executive Agent on all aspects of public release of information relating to assistance given.

7. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) is responsible for all Department of Defense legislative liaison matters related to DoD assistance to the USPS in restoring and maintaining essential postal service. To assure efficiency and responsiveness in keeping the Congress fully informed, he will in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) provide direction and guidance to the Department of Defense Executive Agent in all aspects of the release of information to the Congress relating to assistance given.

V. COMMAND RELATIONSHIPS

In the event of postal augmentation operations:

- A. Resources of the unified or specified commands will be transferred by the JCS to their respective military departments, when requested by the DoD Executive Agent. (Such resources will revert to the unified or specified commands when directed by the DoD Executive Agent.)
- B. The DoD Executive Agent is delegated the authority to exercise, through the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, the direction of those forces assigned or committed to him by the military departments.
- C. Commanders designated by the DoD Executive Agent will exercise operational control over all committed military forces.

VI. REPORTING

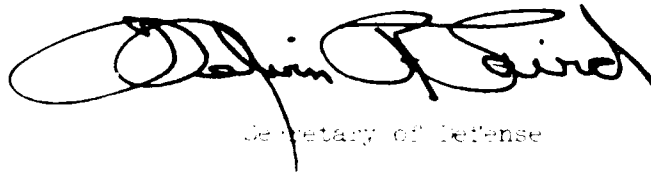
- A. Reports will be submitted in accordance with procedures established by the Department of Defense Executive Agent.
- B. The reporting requirements prescribed herein are assigned Report Control Symbol DD-COMP(AR)1163.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

Implementing directives, instructions, or plans, revised or developed by DoD components under assignment herein will be furnished to the Department of Defense Executive Agent for review.

VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Secretary of Defense