



## Department of Defense

# DIRECTIVE

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DA&M

SUBJECT: U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff

- References:
- (a) National Security Presidential Directive 28, "United States Nuclear Weapons Command and Control, Safety, and Security," June 20, 2003<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) DoD Directive S-5210.81, "United States Nuclear Weapons Command and Control, Safety, and Security" (U), August 8, 2005
  - (c) DoD Directive 3150.6, "United States Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff," January 19, 2001 (hereby canceled)
  - (d) DoD Directive 8910.1, "Management and Control of Information Requirements," June 11, 1993
  - (e) DoD 8910.1-M, "DoD Procedures for Management of Information Requirements," June 30, 1998

### 1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Under the authorities vested in the Secretary of Defense, as the Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS) Executive Agent (hereafter referred to as the Executive Agent), by Reference (a), continues the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff (NSS), and the designation of the Commander, U. S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) as the Director of the Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff (NSS).

1.2. Consistent with Reference (a), assigns and updates responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities to the Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff (NSS).

1.3. Describes the relationship of the NSS to those DoD Components having responsibilities associated with DoD NCCS functions under Reference (b).

1.4. Reissues Reference (c).

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<sup>1</sup> This NSPD is a classified document, not releasable to the public, and is held by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

1.5. Disestablishes the DoD Nuclear Command and Control System Executive Review Committee (DoD NCCS ERC). The Senior National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD)-28 Oversight Committee, established in Reference (b), now performs the functions of the DoD NCCS ERC.

## 2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 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 in 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 NC2 structure supports the exercise of authority and direction by the President.

3.2. NCCS. The combination of facilities, equipment, communications, procedures, and personnel essential for planning, directing, and controlling nuclear weapons, weapons systems, and associated operations.

3.3. NCCS Components. Those Federal Departments and Agencies with nuclear command and control responsibilities assigned in Reference (a), which includes, the White House Military Office, the Departments of Defense, State, Energy, Homeland Security, and Justice, as well as the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

## 4. MISSION

The NSS shall monitor and conduct assessments within and among the NCCS Components on a continuing basis, and facilitate NCCS Component integration, consistent with direction provided in Reference (a). Additionally, the NSS shall provide an annual report, approved by the Executive Agent, to the President on the state of the NCCS.

## 5. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

5.1. The President directed in Reference (a) that the Secretary of Defense, as the President’s Executive Agent for NCCS, along with the Director, NSS, shall coordinate the overall

management of the NCCS. The NSS shall consist of a Director and such subordinate organizational elements as are established by the Director within assigned resources.

5.1.1. The Commander, USSTRATCOM, shall also serve as the Director, NSS.

5.1.2. The Deputy Director, NSS, shall be an officer with the grade of Colonel/Captain (O-6) or above, nominated by the Director, NSS, and approved by the Executive Agent.

5.1.3. The Director, NSS, shall select members of the NSS. The Department of Defense shall provide personnel to be members of the NSS staff. For reasons of currency in operational experience and technical competency, an appropriate proportion of DoD personnel shall be military. Consistent with Reference (a), the Secretary of Energy, on a priority basis, also provides representatives as members of the NSS staff; and the heads of other NCCS Components provide liaison representatives to the NSS.

5.2. Administrative support (including funding, facilities, DoD 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 Commander, USSTRATCOM.

## 6. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The Director, NSS, reporting directly to the Executive Agent, or the Secretary of Defense's designated representative, shall:

6.1. Be a member of the Committee of Principals, consistent with Reference (a).

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

6.3. Ensure that the NSS possesses the capability to monitor and assess the NCCS on a continuing basis.

6.4. Ensure that the NSS conducts assessments of the NCCS elements, and facilitates NCCS integration.

6.5. Ensure NSS activities are conducted in conjunction and coordinated with Federal Departments and Agencies having nuclear command and control, and national crisis response responsibilities.

6.6. Pursuant to the requirement in Reference (a), prepare, coordinate, and submit a fiscal year annual report on the state of the NCCS to the Executive Agent, for forwarding to the President by March 31 of each year. Coordination of this report shall include a side-by-side review of the associated Department of Defense Joint Surety Report. This side-by-side review shall focus on consistency of the information that the Department provides to the

President, while maintaining the existence of independent and competitive reports.

6.7. Develop, validate with NCCS Components, promulgate, and maintain an NCCS architecture document reflecting NCCS organization, responsibilities, functions, and operations.

6.8. Perform other duties as assigned by the President, the Executive Agent, or the Secretary of Defense's designated representative.

## 7. RELATIONSHIPS

7.1. The Director, NSS, in the performance of assigned responsibilities and functions, shall:

7.1.1. Coordinate with organizational elements of the NCCS Components and, as appropriate, consult with the Department of State and other Federal Departments and Agencies on NCCS-related responsibilities and functions involving U.S. allies and/or alliances.

7.1.2. As a member of the Committee of Principals under Reference (a), provide briefings to, respond to tasks from, and inform the Committee of Principals on NSS activities, as requested.

7.1.3. Use existing systems, facilities, and services of the NCCS Components, where possible, to avoid duplication and to achieve maximum efficiency and economy.

7.2. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)) shall serve as the OSD Principal Staff Assistant for implementation of Reference (a), and for advising the Secretary of Defense on implementation of NCCS requirements within the Department of Defense consistent with Reference (b). In this role, the USD(AT&L), through the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs (ATSD(NCB)), shall facilitate dialog among DoD officials with NCCS responsibilities articulated in Reference (b) and oversee the coordination of the DoD response to NSS products.

## 8. AUTHORITIES

The Director, NSS, is hereby delegated authority to:

8.1. Obtain from the DoD Components, in accordance with DoD Directive 8910.1, Reference (d), and in collaboration with the ATSD(NCB), such advice, assistance, reports, and information, consistent with the policies and criteria of Reference (a) to carry out NSS programs and activities.

8.2. Communicate directly with appropriate officials of the NCCS Components, as necessary, on NSS programs and activities.

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

8.4. Request reports, information, advice, and assistance from NCCS Components, when necessary to carry out NSS programs and activities.

8.5. Act as an original classification authority for matters pertaining to assigned responsibilities and functions under Reference (a).

9. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

The reporting requirement referred to in paragraph 6.5. of this Directive is exempt from licensing in accordance with the provisions of paragraph C4.4.1. of DoD 8910.1-M (Reference (e)).

10. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Gordon England