SUBJECT: World-Wide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS)


1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Directive is to define the functional, organizational, and operational relationships between all elements of the Worldwide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS) and to provide policy guidance and establish responsibilities for the management, development, acquisition, and operation of the WWMCCS.

2. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This Directive applies to the Military Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Unified and Specified Commands, and the DoD Agencies (hereinafter referred to as DoD Components) involved in the development, acquisition, and operation and support of the WWMCCS.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. National Command Authorities (NCA). The NCA consists only of the President and the Secretary of Defense or their duly deputized alternates or successors. The chain of command runs from the President to the Secretary of Defense and through the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Commanders of the Unified and Specified Commands. The channel of communication for execution of the Single
Integrated Operational Plan (SIOP) and other time-sensitive operations shall be from
the NCA through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, representing the Joint
Chiefs of Staff, to the executing commanders.¹

3.2. Command and Control. For purposes of this Directive, command and control
is the exercise of authority and direction by duly designated authorities. These
functions are performed through an arrangement of personnel, equipment,
communications, facilities, and procedures, which are employed in planning, directing,
coordinating, and controlling operational activities of U.S. Military Forces.

3.3. Worldwide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS). The
WWMCCS is the worldwide command and control system that provides the means for
operational direction and technical administrative support involved in the function of
command and control of U.S. Military Forces.

3.4. National Military Command System (NMCS). The NMCS is the priority
component of the WWMCCS designed to support the National Command Authorities in
the exercise of their responsibilities. It also supports the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the
exercise of their responsibilities.

4. GENERAL CONCEPTS

4.1. The WWMCCS serves two functions, listed below in their order of priority
and emphasis:

4.1.1. Support of the NCA is the primary mission. The NMCS provides the
means by which the President and the Secretary of Defense can: receive warning and
intelligence upon which accurate and timely decisions can be made; apply the resources
of the Military Departments; and assign military missions and provide direction to the
Unified and Specified Commands. The NMCS must be capable of providing
information so that appropriate and timely responses may be selected and directed by
the NCA and implemented. In addition, the NMCS supports the Joint Chiefs of Staff in
carrying out their responsibilities.

¹The expression, “Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff,” used in this Directive includes the officer
appointed to this position and the officer serving in this position in the appointee’s absence.
4.1.2. Support of the command and control systems of the Unified and Specified Commands and the WWMCCS-related management/information systems of other DoD Components is the second mission. This function will be supported by the WWMCCS subordinate to and on the basis of non-interference with the primary mission.

4.2. **Guidelines for Design and Operation of the WWMCCS**

4.2.1. Both the communication of warning and intelligence from all sources and the communication of decisions and commands to the Military Forces require that the NMCS be the most responsive, reliable, and survivable system that can be provided with the resources available. This requires that the command and control systems of all other DoD Components be configured and operated for effective support of the NMCS as well as their specific missions. Interfaces must be compatible, communication links must provide direct connection or real-time delay wherever necessary, computerized data formats must be common, and all details of system configuration and operation must be as efficient as possible in terms of both effectiveness and in utilization of resources.

4.2.2. The WWMCCS will be exercised frequently under the most realistic conditions possible in order to ensure readiness and to identify deficiencies. Exercises will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of standard operating procedures, changes to these procedures, the effectiveness of installed and deployed command and control equipment, equipment changes, and to assist in validating the need for and characteristics of hardware and software proposed to correct identified deficiencies.

4.2.3. These guidelines apply to all DoD Components and to the utilization of all other DoD resources in support of the WWMCCS and its prime mission.

4.2.4. The effective operation of the WWMCCS rests upon the understanding of its concepts and objectives and its innovative support by those charged with its design and operation. Every effort must be made to ensure this understanding and encourage this support.

5. **COMPOSITION OF THE WWMCCS**

5.1. **National Military Command System (NMCS)**

5.1.1. Since survival of the command and control capability of the NMCS is fundamental to continuity of operations, a composite command structure with survivable communications is required. This includes the National Military Command Center
(NMCC), the Alternate National Military Command Center (ANMCC), the National Emergency Airborne Command Post (NEACP), and such other command centers as may be designated by the Secretary of Defense. These centers must be linked by reliable communications, supported by warning and intelligence systems, and continuously manned and ready for use. Special capabilities must be provided for communication with strategic offensive and defensive forces and for other forces that may be required for quick reaction in crises. In this case, the communications will be designated and operated to ensure minimum elapsed time for the transmission of orders to the operating units of these forces. The NMCS also includes communications connecting its facilities with primary and alternate command facilities of the:

5.1.1.1. Headquarters of the Unified and Specified Commands.

5.1.1.2. Service headquarters of the Military Departments.

5.1.1.3. Other designated DoD Components that provide support through the WWMCCS.

5.1.2. Support of the NMCS will be the priority function of all primary and alternate command facilities.

5.2. Command and Control Systems of the Unified and Specified Commands

5.2.1. The command and control systems of the Unified and Specified Commands provide the means through which Unified/Specified Commanders receive information and exercise operational command of assigned forces.

5.2.2. The command and control system of a Unified Command includes the command and control systems of subordinate Unified Commands and joint task forces when such organizations are established and assigned. Further, the Unified/Specified Commander must provide guidance to his Component Commands to ensure interoperability of the command-wide command, control, and intelligence support systems necessary to his operational functions.

5.3. WWMCCS-Related Management/Information Systems of the Headquarters of the Military Departments. This consists of the facilities, equipment, communications, procedures, and personnel that provide the means through which the headquarters of the Military Departments carry out their assigned functions in support of the WWMCCS.

5.4. Command and Control Systems of the Headquarters of the Service Component Commands. These systems provide the means through which the commanders send and receive information and exercise command over their forces.
5.5. **Command and Control Support Systems of the DoD Agencies.** These systems provide the means through which the Directors accomplish the missions of their Agencies in support of the command and control function.

5.6. **Command and Control Systems** described in paragraphs 5.2., 5.3., 5.4., and 5.5. will be configured and operated generally to meet the requirements of the commands being served. However, the priority requirement will be as defined in subparagraph 4.1.1. All communications facilities of these commands will be designed not only to interface with main NMCS communications, but for information to flow through and to and from points within each command, as may be appropriate.

5.7. **Non-DoD Systems**

5.7.1. Effective coordination and liaison must be established and maintained with those activities of the U. S. Government outside the Department of Defense that have functions associated with the NMCS, e.g., the White House Situation Room, the State Department Operations Center, the Central Intelligence Agency Indications Office, the U.S. Intelligence Board National Indications Center, the U.N. Military Mission, the Office of Emergency Preparedness National Warning Center, the U.S. Coast Guard Operations Center, the FAA Executive Communications Control Center, and such other agencies, activities, or centers as may be designated.

5.7.2. Appropriate military information will be provided to these associated systems through the NMCS, utilizing timely, secure, and reliable communications systems. Conversely, political, intelligence, diplomatic, and economic information input to the NMCS will be provided by these same systems. The WWMCCS may also be required to interface with such multi-national elements as NATO. In addition, the NMCS should provide communications and space to support representatives of the White House and other Government activities who may use the NMCS in a politico-military situation concerning strategic direction of U.S. Military Forces. The Joint Chiefs of Staff will provide for lateral coordination with U.S. Government activities external to the Department of Defense to ensure necessary interchange of data to and from the NMCS.

6. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

6.1. Subject to the authority and direction of the President and the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff have the responsibility:
6.1.1. To prepare strategic plans and provide for the strategic direction of the Armed Forces, including the direction of operations conducted by the Commanders of the Unified and Specified Commands and the discharge of any other function of command for such commands directed by the Secretary of Defense.

6.1.2. To serve as advisers and as military staff in the chain of operational command with respect to the Unified and Specified Commands, to provide a channel of communications from the President and Secretary of Defense to the Unified and Specified Commands, and to coordinate all communications in matters of joint interest addressed to the Commanders of the Unified or Specified Commands by other authority.

6.1.3. To advise on the effectiveness of the WWMCCS.

6.2. Under the direction of the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will:

6.2.1. Operate, for the Secretary of Defense, the NMCS to meet the needs of the NCA. He will establish operational policies and procedures for all components of the NMCS and ensure their implementation.

6.2.2. Define the scope and components of the NMCS.

6.2.3. Develop and validate requirements for the NMCS, make recommendations on the design, development, and procurement of systems and prepare, with appropriate DoD Component assistance, appropriate planning, programming, and budgeting documents for the NMCS.

6.2.4. Maintain cognizance of all WWMCCS programs and capabilities. Validate WWMCCS requirements of the Unified/Specified Commanders. Develop an overall WWMGGS Objectives Plan.

6.2.5. Make recommendations to the Secretary of Defense to ensure responsiveness, functional interoperability, and standardization of the WWMCCS. Make recommendations for changes to the WWMCGS that will increase the effectiveness of the NMCS.

6.2.6. Implement decisions of the Secretary of Defense concerning requisite capabilities of the NMCS pertaining to paragraph 5.6.

6.3. The Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems (DTACCS) will have primary staff responsibility in the Office of the Secretary of
Defense for the WWMCCS, NMCS, and WWMCCS-related systems. This responsibility includes review and advice to the Secretary of Defense on all matters, except those assigned in paragraphs 6.4. and 6.5., below, relating to the design, development, procurement, and performance of equipment, systems, and technical procedures involved in the WWMCCS, including recommendations made by or through the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.4. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence) will have primary staff responsibility in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for intelligence collection and reporting systems. This responsibility includes review and advice to the Secretary of Defense on all matters involving warning and intelligence relating to the design, development, procurement (other than ADP procurement), and performance of equipment, systems, and technical procedures involved in the WWMCCS, including recommendations made by or through the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.5. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) will maintain central focal point cognizance of ADP procurement, reporting, and reutilization.

6.6. Non-NMCS elements of the WWMCCS will continue to be administered by their responsible DoD Components.

7. WORLD-WIDE MILITARY COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM (WWMCCS) COUNCIL

There is hereby established a WWMCCS Council, which will be chaired by the Deputy Secretary of Defense and will have as additional members the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence), and the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications). The Council will provide policy guidance for the development and operation of the WWMCCS and evaluate its overall performance. In particular, it will review and evaluate for the Secretary of Defense the exercises specified under 4.2. It will also review and make recommendations to the Secretary of Defense on the planning, programming, and budgeting of the WWMCCS.

8. CANCELLATION

Reference (a) is hereby superseded and canceled.
9. **EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION**

This Directive is effective upon publication. In the event of conflict between this Directive and previous Directives and Instructions, the provisions of this Directive will govern. All DoD Components will review their existing directives, instructions, and regulations for conformance with this Directive; advise the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the results of this review within 30 days and implement any necessary changes within 90 days of publication of this Directive.

Deputy Secretary of Defense