SUBJECT: U.S. Defense Representative (USDR) in Foreign Countries

References: (a) DoD Directive 5105.47, subject as above, July 15, 1975 (hereby canceled)
(c) Public Law 96-465, "Foreign Service Act of 1980," October 17, 1980 (as amended)

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Reissues reference (a) to establish applicability and update policy and responsibilities.

1.2. Establishes policy for the USDR in a foreign country to strengthen the relationships among:

1.2.1. DoD personnel and organizations in that foreign country that are not under the command of a U.S. area military commander (hereafter referred to as "DoD noncombatant command elements");

1.2.2. The U.S. Ambassador to that foreign country (hereafter referred to as the "Chief of Mission" or "COM"); and

1.2.3. That foreign country's defense establishment.
2. **APPLICABILITY**

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments (including the Coast Guard when it is operating as a Service in the Navy), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components"). Nothing in this Directive alters the chain of command over the armed forces established by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

3. **POLICY**

3.1. All DoD noncombatant command elements shall be under the authority of the Chief of Mission as provided in Section 207 of reference (c).

3.2. The USDR shall represent the Secretary of Defense and the appropriate Unified Commanders for coordination of administrative and security matters for all DoD noncombatant command elements in the foreign country in which the USDR is assigned. The USDR shall be the COM's single point of contact for these purposes, to assist the COM in carrying out his responsibilities under reference (b). The responsibility of the USDR is established for U.S. governmental administrative and security coordination only and should be so interpreted to the officials of the foreign country. The USDR shall coordinate with the appropriate Unified Commander the USDR's performance of his duties as the USDR.

4. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

4.1. The **Under Secretary of Defense for Policy** shall:

4.1.1. Act for the Secretary of Defense on USDR matters consistent with this Directive;

4.1.2. With the concurrence of the **Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff** and the appropriate **Unified Commander**, designate the military position whose incumbent shall serve as the USDR in a foreign country; and

4.1.3. Establish security assistance orientation and other appropriate training requirements for personnel assigned to USDR-designated positions.
4.2. The Secretaries of the Military Departments, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall ensure that the military personnel performance rating systems of the Military Departments provide an opportunity for input from any U.S. area military commander whose area of responsibility encompasses a USDR's country of assignment and the U.S. Ambassador to that country on the USDR's performance of USDR duties.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately. The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy may issue such instructions as may be necessary to carry out the Under Secretary's responsibilities under this Directive. Instructions to the Military Departments shall be issued through the Secretaries of the Military Departments. Instructions to the Unified and Specified Commands shall be communicated through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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Deputy Secretary of Defense