



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 1215.15

January 29, 2004

ASD(RA)

SUBJECT: Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program

- References: (a) DoD Directive 1215.15, same subject as above, December 29, 1986
(b) [DoD 1215.15-H](#), "Reserve Components of the United States Armed Forces," current edition
(c) [DoD 5025.1-M](#), Directives System Procedures," March 5, 2003
(d) [DoD Directive 5530.3](#), "International Agreements," June 11, 1987
(e) [DoD Directive 4500.54](#), "Official Temporary Duty Travel Abroad," May 1, 1991

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Reissues reference (a) to establish policy and assign responsibilities for the management and administration of a Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program (hereafter referred to as "the program") between the Department of Defense and foreign ministries of defense.

1.2. Continues to authorize the publication of reference (b) consistent with reference (c).

2. APPLICABILITY

2.1. This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and to the Military Departments.

2.2. This Directive does not apply to personnel foreign exchange programs between Active components of the United States Armed Forces and foreign military services.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Exchange Reserve Officer. A U.S. officer from any of the U.S. Reserve components, temporarily attached to a foreign military service, or a foreign reserve officer temporarily attached to a U.S. Military Service under this program.

3.2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). An agreement between the Department of Defense and the ministry of defense of a foreign state establishing an exchange program for individual Reserve officers. DoD Directive 5530.3 (reference (d)) establishes DoD policy and procedures regarding negotiation and conclusion of such international agreements.

3.3. Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program Administrator. An officer designated by each Military Department to exercise administrative control over the program within that Department.

3.4. Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program Coordinator. A designated officer within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, who coordinates policy issues relating to the program and serves as a point of contact for the Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program Administrators.

4. POLICY

4.1. It is DoD policy to establish a program for the exchange of U.S. officers of the Reserve components of the Military Departments and those of allied governments whenever such 2 to 4-week training periods will enhance the participants' ability to perform assigned mobilization duties.

4.2. Consistent with this policy, Reserve components of the Military Departments shall participate in specific exchanges when mobilization requirements clearly support such participation.

4.3. Exchange candidates, highly competent in their military specialties, shall be qualified by experience and training to serve as informed representatives of the Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces. Fluency in the language of the host country is desirable and may be required under the terms of specific agreements.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (ASD(RA)), under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness shall:

5.1.1. Be responsible for generating all international MOUs relating to the program. This responsibility shall include all aspects of coordination with appropriate offices within the Department of Defense (particularly with the Assistant Secretaries of Defense for International Security Affairs and International Security Policy) and all aspects of negotiating and signing with foreign ministries of defense.

5.1.2. Negotiate with foreign ministries of defense regarding the specific positions and the number, qualifications, and grade of reserve officers to participate in each exchange.

5.1.3. Conduct any further coordination with foreign ministries of defense necessary to ensure the overall success of each exchange.

5.1.4. Exercise coordination and oversight responsibility within the Department of Defense for execution of the exchanges under the program.

5.1.5. Designate an officer to serve as the Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program Coordinator.

5.1.6. Ensure that exchanges under the program are implemented in agreement with applicable international treaties.

5.2. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall:

5.2.1. Provide counsel to the ASD(RA) on the management, administration, and effectiveness of the program.

5.2.2. Establish specific criteria by which officers are to be considered for exchanges under the program in response to requirements promulgated by the ASD(RA).

5.2.3. Screen and select qualified officers to fill specific exchange positions desired by the Military Department concerned and submit the names of those officers selected and the corresponding position desired for each officer to the ASD(RA) for final coordination.

5.2.4. Implement the Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program in accordance with this Directive, DoD Directive 4500.54 (reference (e)), and specific MOUs.

5.2.5. Program and budget for all administrative and operational requirements for implementation of each MOU within their respective Department.

5.2.6. Designate an officer to serve as the Reserve Officers Foreign Exchange Program Administrator.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense