



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 3235.2

May 21, 2004

DDR&E

SUBJECT: DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Program, DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Board, and DoD Nutrition Committee

- References:
- (a) DoD Directive 3235.2, "DoD Food and Nutrition Research, Development, Testing, Evaluation, and Engineering Program," April 20, 1983 (hereby canceled)
 - (b) [DoD 5025.1-M](#), "DoD Directives System Procedures," March 5, 2003
 - (c) [DoD 3235.2-R](#), "Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Program," April 27, 1984
 - (d) [DoD Directive 5101.1](#), "DoD Executive Agent," September, 3, 2002
 - (e) [DoD 1338.10-M](#), "Manual for the Department of Defense Food Service Program," March 23, 1990
 - (f) [DoD Directive 5134.3](#), "Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E)," November 3, 2003

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Reissues reference (a) to update the policy and responsibilities governing Combat Feeding research, development, and engineering in the Department of Defense (DoD).

1.2. Consistent with reference (b), continues to authorize the publication of reference (c).

1.3. Continues to authorize the DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Board (CFREB) (formerly named "Food and Nutrition Research and Engineering Board" by reference (a)) and the DoD Nutrition Committee.

1.4. Designates the Secretary of the Army as the DoD Executive Agent for operation of the DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Program (CFREP), in accordance with reference (d).

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to:

2.1. The Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Defense Agencies, and all other organizational entities in the DoD (hereafter referred to collectively as the "DoD Components").

2.2. Research and engineering (R&E) supported by a DoD Component.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Combat Feeding Engineering. Advanced Component Development and Prototypes (Budget Activity (BA) 4) accommodating technology transition from the laboratory to operational use and System Development and Demonstration (BA 5) where end item performance is near or at planned operational system levels. Projects are required to maintain and operate the DoD Food Service Program (distinct from research), to support the combat ration, tactical food service equipment and field food service systems acquisition program, to publish food service system and nutrition standards, and to conduct nutrition education programs.

3.2. Combat Feeding Research. Basic and applied food science and nutrition, nutrition education, tactical food service equipment and field food service systems research (BA 1 and 2), and advanced technology development (BA 3) programs carried out by the Department of Defense, or by other Government Agencies at the request of the Department of Defense, to provide new or enhanced combat feeding capabilities and to upgrade and improve the DoD Food Service Program (reference (e)).

3.3. Food Service. Includes nutrition, acquisition and distribution of food supplies and equipment, menu and recipe planning, meal preparation and serving, sanitation, design and layout of facilities, personnel, training, and accounting and reporting.

4. POLICY

It is DoD policy that:

4.1. A DoD CFREP shall be established under a DoD Executive Agent to meet the requirements, objectives, and standards of the DoD Food Service Program, as identified by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and the unique food service requirements of the DoD Components.

4.2. The Military Services shall not conduct individual programs in research and development for combat feeding (rations, field food service equipment and/or field feeding systems) or nutrition.

4.3. There shall be a DoD CFREB for the purpose of approving a Joint Service Annual R&E Program plan and integrating Joint Service programs to address combat feeding R&E requirements from the DoD Components. The program plan shall include BA 1-5 and Engineering Support to Procurement (Operations and Maintenance, Army (OMA)) funding.

4.4. Priority shall be given to combat feeding R&E requirements shared by two or more DoD Components to promote economy of research efforts. Research requirements of a single DoD Component may be placed before multiple-sponsored requirements when appropriately justified in the judgment of the CFREB and recommended to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E). Board recommendations may be appealed directly to the DDR&E by the DoD Component concerned.

4.5. The DoD CFREP shall include combat rations, nutritional requirements, food packaging, food quality, food safety and security, logistics (as related to Class 1 - Subsistence), equipment and field food service systems to develop or improve general and specialized DoD combat feeding programs in response to changing modes of warfare and industry capabilities. The Program shall take maximum advantage of the scientific and technical capabilities of industry, academia, and other Federal Government Agencies.

4.5.1. Established Government sanitary standards and good manufacturing practices shall be considered and strictly enforced in the development of ration components and field food service equipment to prevent food-borne illnesses under all operational conditions.

4.5.2. Nutrition standards for military feeding and operational rations shall incorporate the most current Dietary References Intakes, as established by the Food and

Nutrition Board of the National Academy of Sciences. These standards shall be used by DoD personnel responsible for menu development and evaluation, nutrition education, and research.

4.5.3. DoD Nutrition education programs shall support the objectives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Dietary Guidelines for Americans and Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People Initiatives. Comprehensive nutrition education programs shall be available for use by commanders, Service members, their families, and food service personnel.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. In accordance with reference (f), the Director for Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), under the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)), shall:

5.1.1. Oversee and monitor the DoD CFREP to ensure that it is responsive to the needs of the DoD Components and to the objectives and standards of the DoD Food Service Program (reference (e)).

5.1.2. Develop, publish, and maintain reference (c), consistent with reference (b).

5.1.3. Have the authority to grant exceptions to the R&E portions of this Directive and reference (c).

5.1.4. Establish procedures to ensure that new technology developed under the DoD CFREP is effectively transitioned and integrated into systems and subsystems and transferred to and firmly under the control of the DoD Components.

5.1.5. Chair the DoD CFREB (as defined in enclosure 1). This may be delegated to a direct report Senior Executive.

5.1.6. Serve as the DoD CFREP final approving authority.

5.2. The Secretary of the Army is hereby designated as the DoD Executive Agent for operation of the DoD CFREP (reference (d)), and in that role shall:

5.2.1. Give full consideration to the R&E needs of the DoD Components, applying appropriate efforts toward meeting those needs/requirements by:

5.2.1.1. Maintaining an appropriate DoD technology base for military combat rations, nutrition, and field food service equipment and systems research based on the DDR&E-approved program for the DoD Components.

5.2.1.2. Performing programming and budgeting actions for all combat feeding to maintain the R&E programs based on DDR&E-approved priorities of the DoD Components.

5.2.1.3. Programming and budgeting for combat feeding engineering requested by the DoD Components.

5.2.1.4. Executing the approved DoD CFREP, consistent with DoD guidance and availability of congressional appropriations.

5.2.2. Appoint an Executive Secretary to coordinate the conduct of the DoD CFREP with the DoD Components and provide management and administrative support to the DoD CFREB. The Executive Secretary shall:

5.2.2.1. Coordinate DoD nutrition-related issues with the Chairman of the DoD Nutrition Committee in accordance with reference (e).

5.2.2.2. Ensure that the DDR&E-approved program is maintained.

5.2.3. Provide recommended nutrition, food safety, sanitation, and security standards, as approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs.

5.3. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASD(HA)), under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), shall:

5.3.1. Supervise and monitor activities in the DoD Food Service Program that concern sanitation, nutrition education, and nutrition standards.

5.3.2. Be the approving authority for DoD sanitation and nutrition standards developed and proposed by the Executive Agent (see subparagraph 5.3.4., below).

5.3.3. Assist the DDR&E in developing and maintaining reference (c), consistent with reference (b).

5.3.4. Have the authority to grant exceptions to food service sanitation and nutrition portions of this Directive and reference (c).

5.3.5. Chair the DoD Nutrition Committee (as defined in enclosure 2) and provide recommendations to the DDR&E for nutrition R&E requirements.

5.4. The President of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), under the USD(P&R), shall:

5.4.1. Ensure that education relating to basic and applied nutritional science, food safety and security are included in the USUHS medical and continuing education curriculum and programs.

5.4.2. Appoint a representative to the DoD Nutrition Committee.

5.5. The Secretaries of the Navy and the Air Force and the Director, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), under the USD(AT&L), shall:

5.5.1. Forward to the DoD Executive Agent their approved combat feeding R&E requirements and engineering support needs for incorporation into the DoD CFREP.

5.5.2. Appoint representatives to the DoD CFREB and the DoD Nutrition Committee (Military Departments only).

5.5.3. Assign, at their discretion, Joint Technical Staff Officers to Army Combat Feeding Research and Engineering agencies or installations for coordination of research programming and execution and engineering support needs pertaining to their Component.

5.5.4. Provide an appropriate system for identification, verification, and headquarters-level approval of their respective combat feeding R&E requirements before submission to the DoD Executive Agent.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures - 2

- E1. DoD Combat Feeding Research and Engineering Board (CFREB)
- E2. DoD Nutrition Committee

E1. ENCLOSURE 1

DoD COMBAT FEEDING RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING BOARD (CFREB)

E1.1. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Board shall:

E1.1.1. Consist of representatives of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Marine Corps and the DLA, each of whom shall have one vote.

E1.1.2. Be chaired by the DDR&E or designee, who shall vote in case of ties.

E1.1.3. Invite the attendance of observers from other DoD boards or committees or from other Federal Agencies with interests in DoD combat feeding R&E.

E1.2. FUNCTIONS

The Board annually shall jointly integrate and assign priority to all combat feeding R&E needs/requirements from the DoD Components into a proposed DoD CFREP for DDR&E priority and program approval.

E2. ENCLOSURE 2

DoD NUTRITION COMMITTEE

E2.1. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Committee shall:

E2.1.1. Consist of representatives of the Service Surgeons General, the USUHS, and others from within the Department of Defense who have a professional interest and expertise in nutrition, health promotion, combat feeding, and military food service programs.

E2.1.2. Be chaired by the ASD(HA) or designee.

E2.2. FUNCTIONS

The Committee shall:

E2.2.1. Develop and coordinate proposed nutrition policy to support a healthy and fit force and healthy communities and enhance combat rations and feeding.

E2.2.2. Identify and recommend nutrition research priorities to the DoD CFREB.

E2.2.3. Apply scientific consensus from nutrition-related research to DoD policies that affect nutrition standards and food service, combat feeding, weight management, and physical fitness.