



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

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DA&M

SUBJECT: Director of Net Assessment

References: (a) Title 10, United States Code

- (b) [DoD Directive 5100.1](#), "Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components," September 25, 1987
- (c) DoD Directive 5108.1, "Advisor to the Secretary of Defense for Net Assessment "September 27, 2000 (hereby canceled)
- (d) [DoD Directive 8910.1](#), "Management and Control of Information Requirements," June 11, 1993
- (e) [DoD 5025.1-M](#), "DoD Directives System Procedures," August 1994

1. PURPOSE

Pursuant to the authorities provided in reference (a) and the functions described in reference (b), this Directive:

1.1. Establishes the position of the Director of Net Assessment with the responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities as prescribed herein.

1.2. Replaces reference (c).

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 (IG, DoD), the Defense

Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

3. DEFINITION

Net Assessment. The comparative analysis of military, technological, political, economic, and other factors governing the relative military capability of nations. Its purpose is to identify problems and opportunities that deserve the attention of senior defense officials.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The Director of Net Assessment is the principal staff assistant and advisor to the Secretary of Defense on net assessment matters. In this capacity, the Director of Net Assessment shall:

4.1. Develop and coordinate net assessments of the standing, trends, and future prospects of U.S. military capabilities and military potential in comparison with those of other countries or groups of countries so as to identify emerging or future threats or opportunities for the United States. This shall include, as required, net assessments of:

4.1.1. Current and projected U.S. and foreign military capabilities by theater, region, function, or mission; and

4.1.2. Specific current and projected U.S. and foreign capabilities, operational tactics, doctrine, and weapons systems.

4.2. Develop, advise, and consult on the net assessment portion of the Annual Report of the Secretary of Defense to the President and Congress, congressional testimony, and foreign government discussions; and provide advice for the preparation of net assessments by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

4.3. Provide guidance and staff assistance, and represent the Secretary of Defense, in the development of national net assessments by the National Security Council, and act as the primary OSD focal point for joint efforts with the Intelligence Community to produce net assessments.

4.4. Provide support for the improvement and development of net assessments within the Department of Defense, including, but not limited to, the maintenance of a library of historical all-source intelligence and friendly force data.

4.5. Provide objective analyses of policy, doctrine, strategy, goals, and objectives as requested or determined necessary.

4.6. Supervise and oversee the Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellows Program at the National Defense University.

4.7. Coordinate with DoD officials, as necessary, to ensure that departmental documents, deliberations, and discussions reflect appropriate, up-to-date assessment information.

4.8. Perform such other functions as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

5. RELATIONSHIPS

5.1. In the performance of assigned functions and responsibilities, the Director of Net Assessment shall:

5.1.1. Report directly to the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

5.1.2. Coordinate and exchange information with other OSD officials, the Heads of the DoD Components, and other Federal officials having collateral or related functions.

5.1.3. Use existing facilities and services of the Department of Defense and other Federal Agencies, whenever practicable, to avoid duplication and to achieve an appropriate balance among modernization, readiness, sustainability, efficiency, and economy.

5.2. Other OSD officials and the Heads of DoD Components shall coordinate with the Director of Net Assessment on all matters related to the responsibilities and functions cited in section 4., above.

6. AUTHORITIES

The Director of Net Assessment is hereby delegated authority to:

6.1. Obtain reports and information consistent with DoD Directive 8910.1 (reference (d)), as necessary to carry out assigned functions.

6.2. Issue DoD Instructions, DoD Publications, and one-time directive-type memoranda, consistent with DoD 5025.1-M (reference (e)), which implement policy approved by the Secretary of Defense in assigned areas of responsibility. Instructions to the Military Departments shall be issued through the Secretaries of the Military Departments. Instructions to the Combatant Commands shall be communicated through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.3. Communicate directly with the Heads of the DoD Components, as necessary to carry out assigned functions, including the transmission of requests for advice and assistance. Communications to the Military Departments shall be transmitted through the Secretaries of the Military Departments, their designees, or as otherwise provided in law or directed by the Secretary of Defense in other DoD issuances. Communications to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.4. Communicate with other Government officials, representatives of the Legislative Branch, members of the public, and representatives of foreign governments, as applicable, in carrying out assigned functions.

7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.


Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense