



# Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

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Incorporating Change 1, July 22, 2003

DA&M

SUBJECT: DoD Executive Agent for Space

- References:
- (a) Section 113 of title 10, United States Code
  - (b) [DoD Directive 3100.10](#), "Space Policy," July 9, 1999
  - (c) [DoD Directive 5101.1](#), "DoD Executive Agent," September 3, 2002
  - (d) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "National Security Space Management and Organization," October 18, 2001
  - (e) through (m), see enclosure 1

## 1. PURPOSE

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense under reference (a), and consistent with the policies in reference (b), this Directive:

1.1. Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities and authorities for the planning, programming, and acquisition of space systems within the Department of Defense (DoD).

1.2. Designates the Secretary of the Air Force as the DoD Executive Agent for Space in accordance with reference (c).

1.3. Implements and supersedes paragraph 3.2. of reference (d), consistent with reference (e), and supersedes reference (f).

## 2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense; the Military Departments; the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Combatant Commands; the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense; the Defense Agencies; the DoD Field Activities; and all other organizational entities in the Department of Defense (hereafter collectively referred to as "the DoD Components").

## 3. MISSION

The DoD Executive Agent for Space, exercising the responsibilities and authorities herein, shall develop, coordinate, and integrate plans and programs for space systems and the acquisition of DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs to provide operational space force capabilities to ensure the United States has the space power to achieve its national security objectives.

## 4. DEFINITIONS

As used in this Directive, the following terms have the meaning set forth below:

4.1. Space Forces. The space and terrestrial systems, equipment, facilities, organizations, and personnel necessary to access, use, and, if directed, control space for national security.

4.2. Space Power. The total strength of a nation's capabilities to conduct and influence activities to, in, through, and from the space medium to achieve its objectives.

4.3. Space Systems. All of the devices and organizations forming the space network. These consist of: spacecraft; mission package(s); ground stations; data links among spacecraft, ground stations, mission or user terminals, which may include initial reception, processing, and exploitation; launch systems; and directly related supporting infrastructure, including space surveillance and battle management/command, control, communications, and computers.

4.4. Ballistic Missile Defense System. For the purposes of this Directive, the Ballistic Missile Defense System is not considered a space Major Defense Acquisition Program in accordance with the Secretary of Defense memorandum, dated January 2, 2002 and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)) memorandum, dated February 13, 2002 (references (g) and (h)).

## 5. POLICY

It is DoD policy that:

5.1. Planning and programming of space systems and acquisition of DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs shall be performed on a DoD-wide basis by a DoD Executive Agent for Space, in accordance with applicable law and pertinent Federal and DoD policies and regulations.

5.2. The product of DoD space planning shall be documented in the National Security Space Plan (NSSP) based on annually updated space plans and architectures of the DoD Components developed in coordination with the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for Community Management (DDCI/CM) and other Federal officials, as appropriate.

5.3. The Program Objective Memoranda of the DoD Components shall be reviewed annually by the Under Secretary of the Air Force-Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (USecAF-DNRO), who shall prepare the National Security Space Program Assessment (NSSPA), which reports on the consistency of the implementation of defense and intelligence space programs with policy, strategy, planning, and programming guidance, and architectural decisions, based on the Future Years Defense Program.

5.4. Interservice support agreements, memoranda of understanding, and other written arrangements, shall be used to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with reference (e), to establish the support arrangements necessary for the DoD Executive Agent for Space to accomplish the mission and fulfill the responsibilities assigned by this Directive.

5.5. The Heads of DoD Components shall ensure the full cooperation of personnel under their jurisdiction with the DoD Executive Agent for Space to enable the Department to eliminate duplication of effort and ensure that DoD-wide planning, programming, space research, development and acquisition resources are used effectively.

## 6. RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1. The Secretary of the Air Force is hereby designated as the DoD Executive Agent for Space and in that role shall:

6.1.1. Exercise DoD-wide responsibilities for planning and programming of space systems and acquisition of DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs.

6.1.2. Redelegate the DoD Executive Agent for Space responsibilities only to the Under Secretary of the Air Force who also serves as the DNRO. No further delegation is authorized.

6.2. The DoD Executive Agent for Space shall:

6.2.1. Ensure all DoD Executive Agent for Space responsibilities and functions are assigned and executed, in accordance with reference (c) and this Directive.

6.2.2. Recommend to the Heads of the DoD Components DoD-wide processes for the development, coordination, integration, review, and implementation of space system plans, strategy, and acquisition programs.

6.2.3. Represent and advocate DoD-wide space interests in the planning and programming processes and defense acquisition process. Provide information to OSD Principal Staff Assistants (PSAs) as requested to support program analysis and evaluation of space policy, plans, and acquisition programs. Provide information copies of such submissions to the USD(AT&L), the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)), the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)), the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration (ASD(*NI*)), the Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation (PA&E), and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6.2.4. Integrate the needs and requirements of the DoD Components into space plans and major space program requirements documents. Resolve issues with the DoD Components and then submit architectures and requirements to the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) for validation. Adjudicate unresolved requirements and interoperability issues through the JROC. Provide space plans to the JROC for information.

6.2.5. Prepare the annual NSSP in consultation with the Heads of DoD Components and the DDCI/CM. Provide the NSSP to the USD(AT&L), the USD(P), the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (USD(C)), the USD(I), the ASD(*NI*), the Director, PA&E, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the DDCI/CM.

6.2.6. Recommend DoD-wide space and space-related planning and programming guidance to the USD(P) and the Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation (PA&E) for consideration in their formulation of planning and programming

guidance documents. Provide information copies of such submissions to the USD(AT&L), the ASD(*NII*), and the Heads of DoD Components.

6.2.7. Consult with the USD(AT&L), the USD(I), the ASD(*NII*), and the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on significant changes to any space program subject to Major Defense Acquisition Program review before such changes are included in a Program Objective Memorandum submission of a DoD Component.

6.2.8. Develop and recommend to the USD(AT&L), in coordination with the Heads of the DoD Components, policies and programs that improve, streamline, and strengthen DoD Component space and space-related technology access and development programs; encourage space-related open market competition and technology-driven prototype efforts that offer increased military capabilities at lower total ownership costs and faster fielding times; and exploit the cost-reduction potential of accessing innovative or commercially developed technologies.

6.2.9. When serving as the Milestone Decision Authority for DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs in accordance with the USD(AT&L) memoranda, dated February 14, 2002 and October 2, 2002 (references (i) and (j)), or such subsequent delegation, supervise the execution of DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs.

6.2.9.1. Inform the USD(AT&L) of all waivers and exemptions to DoD policy granted for DoD space programs, and of all new or revised acquisition processes established for DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs.

6.2.9.2. Provide recommendations to the USD(AT&L) for all certifications, reports, and waivers for DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs required by Chapter 144 of title 10, United States Code.

6.2.10. Develop assessments and, where appropriate, recommend policies and strategies to the USD(AT&L) to maintain the capability of the U.S. space industry to meet DoD needs.

6.2.11. Develop space systems acquisition plans, strategies, guidance, and assessments to ensure that acquisition milestone review and the Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System processes are timely and are implemented effectively.

6.2.12. Ensure that the DoD Component space Major Defense Acquisition Programs are carried out through joint or integrated program offices to the maximum extent practicable. These program offices shall report to the USecAF through their respective Component Acquisition Executive.

6.2.13. Develop and implement a process to align Air Force and NRO programs. Encourage each organization to use the "best practices" found throughout the national security space community for space research, development, acquisition, and operations. Such actions shall be coordinated with the USD(AT&L), the USD(P), the USD(C), the USD(I), the ASD(*NI*), the Director, PA&E, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Director for Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E), and the DDCI/CM.

6.2.14. Subject to the authority of the DOT&E, oversee development test and evaluation planning and operational test and evaluation of DoD space Major Defense Acquisition Programs and other space programs on the OSD Test and Evaluation Master Oversight List. For any such program being acquired, the acquiring Department shall be responsible for the test and evaluation and the provision of pertinent documentation in a timely manner to the DoD Executive Agent for Space.

6.2.15. Review annually, in coordination with the other DoD Components and the Intelligence Community, the space program, budget, and accounting mechanism (referred to as a "virtual" Major Force Program for Space) established by the Director, PA&E and the DDCI/CM, and recommend to the Director, PA&E changes to the content of the "virtual" Major Force Program for Space.

6.2.16. Serve as the Air Force Acquisition Executive for Space.

6.2.17. Submit Selected Acquisition Reports to the USD(AT&L).

6.2.18. Establish, maintain, and preserve records that document the transaction of business and mission of the DoD Executive Agent for Space to provide evidence of the organization, functions, policies, procedures, decisions, and activities in accordance with DoD Directive 5015.2 (reference (k)).

6.3. The Heads of the DoD Components shall:

6.3.1. Participate in the planning, programming, and acquisition activities of the DoD Executive Agent for Space. In support of these activities, provide to the DoD Executive Agent for Space information regarding:

6.3.1.1. Space science and technology priorities, programs, and funding.

6.3.1.2. Operational requirements for space and space-related systems. The Missile Defense Agency shall provide a Description of Operational Capability in lieu of operational requirements in accordance with references (f) and (g).

6.3.1.3. Strategies, plans for space systems, force structure, capabilities, measures of performance, and schedules.

6.3.1.4. Approved programmatic and budget data for space programs.

6.3.1.5. Space acquisition program data.

6.3.1.6. Key indicators reflecting the status of, or changes to, their cadre of space professionals.

6.3.1.7. Readiness of space forces when there are implications that may assist the DoD Executive Agent for Space in addressing a space system deficiency.

6.3.1.8. Recommendations on priorities for space support to the DoD Components.

6.3.1.9. Operations Concepts for space and space-related systems.

6.3.2. Provide space strategies, plans, and program information to the DoD Executive Agent for Space for review, coordination, and integration into the NSSP and to support DoD-wide planning, programming, and acquisition. Space program information normally shall be provided throughout the year and will include a Program Objective Memoranda submission or such other mutually agreeable mechanisms as established by the DoD Executive Agent for Space and the Heads of the DoD Components.

6.3.3. Submit space needs and requirements to the DoD Executive Agent for Space for integration into space plans and major space program requirements documents as well as associated acquisition programs prior to submitting requirements to the JROC. Where possible, resolve issues with the DoD Executive Agent for Space. Unresolved requirements and interoperability issues shall be adjudicated by the JROC.

6.3.4. Develop DoD Component requirements and concepts for: space systems; space doctrine, education, and training requirements and standards; space research, development, testing, evaluation, and acquisition; related military construction; and space-related strategy and operations. In coordination with the appropriate DoD Components, provide such information to the DoD Executive Agent for Space. Where appropriate, use established DoD processes for the development of joint doctrine, training, and strategies.

6.3.5. Develop and maintain a sufficient cadre of space-qualified personnel to support their Component in space planning, programming, acquisition, and operations. Support the DoD Executive Agent for Space with space cadre personnel to represent their Component in DoD-wide planning, programming, and acquisition activities.

6.3.6. Recommend space and space-related planning and programming guidance for DoD Component programs to the USD(P) and the Director, PA&E for consideration in their formulation of planning and programming guidance documents. Inform the USecAF, the USD(AT&L), the USD(I), and the ASD(*NI*) of such submissions.

6.3.7. Continue to develop, acquire, and fund space research, development, and acquisition programs that meet DoD Component requirements and submit such program information to the DoD Executive Agent for Space in accordance with this Directive.

6.3.8. Advise the DoD Executive Agent for Space on Program Objective Memoranda that significantly change any program subject to review during the program assessment for space, before submission to the OSD.

6.4. The OSD Principal Staff Assistants shall, within their functional areas, exercise their designated authorities and responsibilities as established by law, Executive Order, or DoD guidance to facilitate the mission of the DoD Executive Agent for Space and to implement their respective actions as specified herein and required by reference (d).

## 7. RELATIONSHIPS

7.1. The DoD Components shall implement their space responsibilities, functions, and authorities in accordance with this Directive. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to subsume or replace the functions, responsibilities, or authorities of the OSD PSAs or the Heads of DoD Components, prescribed by law, Executive Order, or DoD guidance.

7.2. In performing assigned responsibilities, the DoD Executive Agent for Space shall:

7.2.1. Report to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense and be subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense in accordance with reference (a).



7.2.2. Maintain close communications with the Heads of DoD Components and OSD PSAs responsible for space and space-related matters. Matters pertaining to space plans, programming, and acquisition programs shall be appropriately coordinated with these officials to ensure their requirements and equities for space systems and capabilities are met.

7.2.3. Coordinate with the Heads of DoD Components on their space program science and technology, research, development, and production programs to eliminate duplication of effort and ensure that resources are used to achieve maximum effect. Such actions shall be coordinated with the USD(AT&L) and the Director, Defense Research and Engineering.

7.2.4. Support the USD(P) and the Director, PA&E, as requested, with program analysis and evaluation of space policy, plans, and programs. Provide information on such support to the USD(AT&L) the USD(I), and the ASD(*NII*).

7.2.5. Support the USD(C) with the development, integration, implementation, and maintenance of space program financial strategic plans as well as the reengineering of associated business practices.

7.2.6. Support the USD(C), as requested, in the preparation and validation of economic analyses in support of space program financial systems.

7.2.7. Support the National Security Space Architect (NSSA) in the development, coordination, and integration of space architectures to achieve efficiencies in acquisition and future operations.

7.2.8. Assist in the development of the annual NSSPA conducted by the NSSA in consultation with the Heads of the DoD Components, the DDCI/CM, and other Federal officials. The USecAF-DNRO shall submit the NSSPA through the Secretary of the Air Force to the Senior Executive Council established by DoD Directive 5105.66 (reference (l)) and shall provide the NSSPA to the USD(AT&L), the USD(P), the USD(C), the USD(I), the Director, PA&E, and the ASD(*NII*). In coordination with the DDCI/CM, the USecAF-DNRO shall provide the NSSPA for review jointly to the Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence.


## 8. AUTHORITY

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

8.2. Communicate directly with the Heads of the DoD Components, as necessary to carry out assigned functions, to include 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.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Paul Wolfowitz  
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures - 1

E1. References, continued

E1. ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES, continued

- (e) [DoD Instruction 4000.19](#), "Interservice and Intragovernmental Support," August 9, 1995
- (f) DoD Directive 5160.32, "Development of Space Systems," September 8, 1970 (hereby canceled)
- (g) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Missile Defense Program Direction," January 2, 2002
- (h) Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Memorandum, "Ballistic Missile Defense Program Implementation Guidance," February 13, 2002
- (i) Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Memorandum, "Delegation of Milestone Decision Authority for DoD Space Systems," February 14, 2002
- (j) Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Memorandum, "Independent Cost Estimates for Space Programs," October 2, 2002
- (k) [DoD Directive 5015.2](#), "DoD Records Management Program," March 6, 2000
- (l) [DoD Directive 5105.66](#), "Senior Executive Council," July 10, 2001
- (m) [DoD Directive 8910.1](#), "Management and Control of Information Requirements," June 11, 1993