



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

J-3

DISTRIBUTION: A, B, C, J, S

CJCSI 3217.01A

1 October 1999

MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE US POSTAL SERVICE

Reference: DOD Directive 5030.50, 13 April 1972, "Employment of Department of Defense Resources in Support of the United States Postal Service"

1. Purpose. This instruction:

a. Sets procedures for the prompt transfer of military resources among combatant commands as required by the reference.

b. Ensures compatibility of military assistance to the US Postal Service with other military plans.

2. Cancellation. CJCSI 3217.01, 30 May 95, is cancelled.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the combatant commands.

4. Policy

a. The Secretary of the Army is designated by the reference as the DOD Executive Agent for military assistance to the US Postal Service (USPS) in restoring and maintaining essential mail service in the United States. Responsibilities and guidance for plans to support USPS operations by the Military Services, combatant commands, and other DOD components are in the reference.

b. Actions in USPS assistance operations require rapid response. Subject to coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in advance of the employment of forces assigned to the combatant commands, direct liaison is authorized among the Director of Military Support (DOMS), action agent for the Secretary of the Army, and the

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combatant commands on matters relating to military support for the USPS.

5. Responsibilities

a. CINCs will respond to Secretary of the Army taskings. If a CINC believes a tasking is inconsistent with defense priorities or will unduly interfere with the primary mission and is unable to resolve the matter with the DOMS, the matter will be referred to the Secretary of Defense through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

b. Upon receipt of a DOMS tasking, affected CINCs will immediately inform the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the following:

(1) Forces involved, including planned deployment strengths, airlift, and source of airlift.

(2) Designation of the task force commander (for USPS assistance within the 50 states, District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and US territories and possessions).

(3) Conflict with or impact on scheduled operations or other command commitments.

(4) Estimated start time and duration of the alert or deployment and the time when the alert or deployment would impact on scheduled operations.

(5) Commander's estimate of the situation.

(6) Information on available Reserve forces or planned operations that would assist the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in planning and advising the National Command Authorities.

(7) Information on the progress of operations, including force and logistic status, significant events of the past 24 hours, and significant events scheduled for the next 24 hours.

(8) Information reported in subparagraphs 5b(1) through 5b(7) above will be updated daily, NLT 0500 with information accurate as of 0200 hours, Greenwich Mean Time (Time Zone ZULU), to the Director of Military Support and the National Military Command Center. Continue daily reporting for the duration of the alert or deployment of Federal forces.

c. USCINACOM, USCINCPAC, and USCINCSO will:

(1) Designate the headquarters that will act as the planning point of contact for assistance to the US Postal Service.

(2) Be prepared to comply with all orders and special instructions issued by the Secretary of the Army.

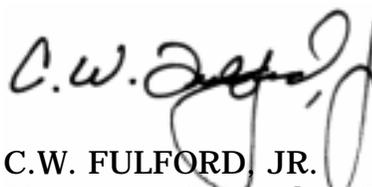
(3) Inform the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of the Army through reports as directed by the action agent (DOMS).

d. All coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the use of Federal forces will be directed to the Director for Operations, Joint Staff.

6. Summary of Changes. Major revisions are (a) DOMS included as addressee in subparagraph 5b(8) and report timing changed to match DOMS standard, (b) last CINC listed in subparagraph 5c. changed from USCINCSOC to USCINCSO, and (c) the requirement for coordination by only a general or flag-rank officer of the Directorate for Operations has been deleted.

7. Releasability. This instruction is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. DOD components (to include the combatant commands), other Federal agencies, and the public may obtain copies of this instruction through the Internet from the CJCS Directives Home Page--<http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine>. Copies are also available through the Government Printing Office on the Joint Electronic Library CD-ROM.

8. Effective Date. This instruction is effective 1 October 1999.



C.W. FULFORD, JR.
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