SUBJECT: Compatibility, Interoperability, and Integration of Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence (C3I) Systems

References: (a) DoD Directive 4630.5, "Compatibility and Interoperability of Tactical Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence Systems," October 9, 1985 (hereby canceled)
(d) Section 2457 of title 10, United States Code

A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive reissues reference (a) and promulgates policy for compatibility, interoperability, and integration of C3I systems used in the Department of Defense.

B. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This Directive applies to:

1. The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Unified and Specified Combatant Commands, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

2. All new C3I systems (including nondevelopmental systems) and major changes (e.g. release of a new software version) to existing systems that must interact with or be integrated into the C3I structures of the Department.

C. DEFINITION

Principal Staff Assistants. Undersecretaries of Defense, Assistant Secretaries of Defense, General Counsel of the Department of Defense, Inspector General of the Department of Defense, Comptroller of the Department of Defense, Assistants to
the Secretary of Defense, and OSD Directors or equivalents who report directly to the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense.

D. POLICY

It is DoD Policy:

1. That forces for joint and combined operations must be supported through compatible, interoperable, and integrated C3I systems that can support operations worldwide throughout the entire spectrum of conflict.

2. To establish as a long-term objective a DoD-wide, global C3I infrastructure that can accommodate the widest possible range of missions and operational scenarios by allowing users to enter the infrastructure at anytime, anyplace, in the execution of any mission.

3. In accordance with DoD Directive 5000.1 and DoD Instruction 5000.2 (references (b) and (c)), to develop, acquire, and deploy C3I systems and equipment that meet essential operational needs of U.S. forces, that are compatible with existing and planned C3I systems and other electronic equipment, and that are interoperable with other U.S. and allied nations' functionally related C3I information systems and equipment. See 10 U.S.C. 2457 (reference (d)), which establishes a policy of Standardization and interoperability within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

4. That, for purposes of compatibility, interoperability, and integration, all C3I systems developed for use by U.S. forces are considered to be for joint use.

5. That interoperability and integration of C3I requirements shall be determined during the requirements validation process and shall be updated as necessary throughout the acquisition period, deployment, and operational life of a system.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence shall assign responsibilities and prescribe procedures, as necessary, to ensure the policies outlined in section D., above, are carried out.

2. The Principal Staff Assistants shall, during all technical, program, budget, funding, or other reviews of the Military Departments or the Defense Agencies affecting compatibility and interoperability requirements, make recommendations to the appropriate decision authority about the conformance to the policies outlined in section D., above.
3. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:

   a. In accordance with references (b) and (c), establish procedures for the development, coordination, review, and validation of compatibility, interoperability, and integration requirements for the C3I systems.

   b. Approve, document, and exercise doctrinal concepts and associated operational procedures to achieve compatibility, interoperability, and integration of C3I systems employed by U.S. military forces and, as appropriate, with coalition and allied forces.

   c. Establish procedures for and ensure compliance with certification of joint interoperability of C3I systems throughout those systems' life-cycles.

4. The Heads of the DoD Components shall ensure that the provisions of section D., above, are followed during the requirements validation process, acquisition, deployment, and operation of systems and forces.

F. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

Donald J. Arlwood
Deputy Secretary of Defense