SUBJECT: Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS)

References: (a) DoD Directive 5120.14, subject as above, May 15, 1986 (hereby canceled)
(c) DoD Directive 5000.11, "Data Elements and Data Codes Standardization Program," December 7, 1964
(d) DoD Directive 5105.18, "DoD Committee Management Program," March 20, 1984

A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive reissues reference (a) and updates the organization and staffing structure of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS).

B. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (OJCS), and the Defense Agencies (hereafter called "DoD Components"). The terms "Service" and "Military Services" refer to the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and the Coast Guard (by agreement with the Department of Transportation (DoT)).

C. ORGANIZATION

1. Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense, there is hereby reconstituted within the Department of Defense the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS).

2. The Committee is composed of approximately 32 civilian members selected on the basis of equitable distribution of fields of interest and geographical representation. Members must be U.S. citizens selected without regard to race, creed, sex, national origin, age, marital status, or physical handicap.

3. Members are appointed by the Secretary of Defense. Members serve as individuals and not as official representatives of any group or organization with which they may be affiliated. The term of membership is 3 years, with approximately one-third of the membership rotating annually.

4. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management and Personnel (ASD(FM&P)) designates annually a member of the Committee to serve as Chairman.
D. FUNCTIONS

The Committee:

1. Provides the Secretary of Defense, through the ASD(FM&P), assistance and advice on matters relating to women in the Services, and recommends measures to ensure effective utilization of the capabilities of these women. In this connection, individual Committee members or groups of members may be called upon to serve on task forces covering issues such as recruitment, training, utilization, housing, health and welfare.

2. Interprets to the public the need for and the role of women as an integral part of the Armed Forces, encourages public acceptance of military service as a citizenship responsibility and as a career field for qualified women, and provides a vital link between the Armed Forces and the civilian communities.

E. ADMINISTRATION

1. The Committee reports to the ASD(FM&P), with functional responsibilities under the staff cognizance of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Manpower and Personnel Policy) (DASD(MM&PP)).

2. The Committee meets at the invitation of the ASD(FM&P). A minimum of two formal meetings are held annually; the presence of a majority of the members constitutes a quorum.

3. The ASD(FM&P) provides such personnel, facilities, and other administrative support necessary for the performance of the Committee's functions.

4. The DACOWITS Office is directly responsible to the ASD(FM&P), and functions under the direction of the DASD(MM&PP) in providing the necessary assistance and support services for the conduct of the Committee's business.

5. In carrying out the functions stated herein, the Committee may obtain information, consistent with the provisions of DoD Directive 5000.19 (reference (b)), and assistance through the DACOWITS Office from the DoD Components. Existing DoD standard data elements will be used for all information requirements, when possible, in accordance with the provisions of DoD Directive 5000.11 (reference (c)).

6. The Chairman of the Committee submits annually a written report to the Secretary of Defense about key issues relating to women in the Services.

7. The members of the Committee serve without compensation, but may be allowed transportation and per diem instead of subsistence and other expenses.

8. The policies, rules, and procedures contained in DoD Directive 5105.18 (reference (d)) apply to this Committee.
F. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

William H. Taft, IV
Deputy Secretary of Defense

[Signature]

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