



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
1000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 8120.1C  
DUSN  
15 Jan 2019

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 8120.1C

From: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS RESPONSIBILITIES  
AND AUTHORITIES

Ref: (a) DoD Directive 3150.02 of 24 April 2013  
(b) DoDM 3150.02, DoD Nuclear Weapon Safety System  
Program Manual of 31 January 2014  
(c) DoDM S-5210.41 Volumes 1-3, Nuclear Weapon Security  
Manual of 13 July 2009 (NOTAL)  
(d) DoDM 5210.42, Nuclear Weapons Personnel Reliability  
Program of 8 January 2001  
(e) Navy Nuclear Deterrence Mission Oversight Council  
Charter of 14 May 2015 (NOTAL)  
(f) SECNAVINST S8126.1A (NOTAL)  
(g) SECNAVINST 5430.7R  
(h) SECNAVINST 12250.6A  
(i) SECNAV M-5214.1

1. Purpose. To define policy, responsibilities, and authorities for the safe, secure, and reliable stewardship of Department of the Navy (DON) Nuclear Weapons (NW) and NW systems, Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications (NC3) systems. NW, NW systems, and NC3 systems will henceforth be referred to as Navy Nuclear Deterrence Mission (NNDM) systems.

2. Cancellation. SECNAVINST 8120.1B.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to all United States (U.S.) Navy and U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) commands, activities, units, and forces having responsibility for custody or supporting operations, life cycle support, development, or acquisition of NNDM systems, and those specific activities required for security of DON NW. Nuclear command and control and employment planning authorities and responsibilities remain as delegated to operational commanders.

4. Policy. Due to the political and military significance of NWs, their destructive power and the potential consequence of an

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accident or unauthorized act against a NW, the following policies regarding NNDM systems' safety and security are hereby established for the DON. These policies are refinements to references (a) through (d) and do not in any way detract or supplant those policies and directives.

5. Objective. The DON must ensure NNDM systems are designed, maintained, transported, stored, and employed with maximum safety, security, reliability, and effectiveness consistent with operational and mission requirements.

6. Organizational and General Responsibilities. As required by references (a) and (b), the responsibility for ensuring the safety and security of all NNDM systems for which the DON has Department of Defense (DoD) life-cycle management responsibility resides with the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV). The Under Secretary of the Navy (UNSECNAV) is the principal civilian advisor to SECNAV on nuclear weapons policy. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) are assigned by SECNAV as the principal uniformed advisors to SECNAV on NW operations and employment, NNDM systems, NW Safety, and NW security (NW Surety). Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces (COMUSFLTFORCOM) and Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) are responsible for the safe, secure, reliable, and effective technical operation and maintenance of NNDM systems under their cognizance.

7. Responsibilities

a. UNSECNAV. The UNSECNAV is the principal civilian advisor to SECNAV on nuclear weapons policy.

b. CNO. The CNO shall oversee safety, security, reliability, and effectiveness of NNDM systems, and shall:

(1) Maintain the Navy Nuclear Deterrence Mission Oversight Council (NNDMOC) to provide comprehensive oversight and coordination of DON NW and NW systems across supporting and/or supported organizations per reference (e). The NNDMOC shall:

(a) Ensure Navy compliance with established DON and DoD NW and NW systems safety, security, Nuclear Weapons Incident (NWI) response, reliability, and personnel policy;

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(b) Direct and coordinate action to resolve NW and NW systems policy and oversight issues identified by internal and external inspections, assessments, and reports;

(c) Coordinate to strengthen ties between the Secretariat (for policy and/or oversight functions), the Office of the CNO (for resource, requirements, policy, and/or oversight functions), Headquarters Marine Corps (for NW security force issues), the Fleets, and Strategic Systems Programs (for NW and NW systems program operations and/or material support functions);

(d) Direct the scope and conduct of an assessment of DON NW and NW systems compliance with NW and NW systems safety, security, reliability, NWI response, and personnel policy at a periodicity of every two years; and

(e) Review the Navy Security Annual Deviation Report prior to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations' review and approval.

(2) Conduct comprehensive assessments, at periods not to exceed two years, of DON NW and NW systems programs and activities to ensure safe, secure, reliable, and effective stewardship.

(3) Assign specific responsibilities to CNO staff offices and Echelon II Navy commands to support the NNDM. Establish supported and/or supporting relationships, as appropriate, among Navy organizations with responsibilities that involve NNDM systems programs.

(4) Approve policies associated with conduct of end-to-end assessments of NW and NW systems for safe, secure, reliable, and effective execution of the NNDM.

c. CMC. CMC shall provide units in direct support of NW security at Strategic Weapons Facilities and as SECNAV directs, per references (c), (d), and (f), and will:

(1) Select and train USMC personnel for assignment to duties which involve NW, NW systems, and NW security; and

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(2) Implement DON policies directed by higher authority and in this instruction.

d. Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) (ASN (RD&A)). ASN (RD&A) shall provide program oversight of delegated authorities to the Director, Strategic Systems Programs (DIRSSP) as the Program Manager for the acquisition of strategic systems.

e. Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) (ASN (M&RA)). ASN (M&RA) shall develop and administer civilian personnel management procedures for the identification of civilian personnel providing direct support to the NNDM. ASN (M&RA) shall also establish procedures and guidance for Budget Submitting Office Commanders and requirements regarding reporting on human capital life-cycle management of these personnel in accordance with references (g) and (h).

f. Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy (DUSN). DUSN shall keep the Under Secretary informed of nuclear weapons policy and deterrence issues and exercise responsibility for Personnel Reliability Program (PRP) policy approval. Additionally, DUSN will monitor DIRSSP implementation of PRP policy, and supported by DIRSSP, will conduct formal policy coordination external to the DON.

g. DIRSSP. DIRSSP is the program manager and technical authority for technical operations, safety, security, reliability, and maintenance of DON NW and NW systems (with exception of NC3 programs). DIRSSP is the Echelon 2 supporting flag officer to the CNO, COMUSFLTFORCOM, and COMPACFLT for developing and coordinating policies associated with safety, security, supply support, NW radiation control and radiation health, personnel training and capabilities, and accident and/or incident response for DON NW and NW systems. Additionally, DIRSSP shall exercise responsibility as the NNDM regulatory lead for developing, coordinating, and implementing policies, associated with conducting end-to-end assessments of NNDM systems and personnel (inclusive of NC3-N programs) for safe, secure, reliable, and effective execution of the NNDM.

8. Action

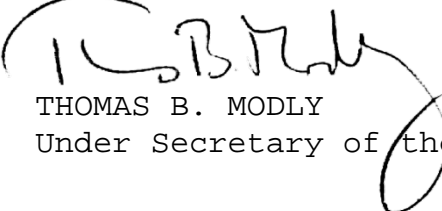
a. Organizations listed in paragraph 7 will issue formal direction to implement responsibilities assigned in this instruction, as required. All commands who possess a NW capability under their cognizance, or who are responsible for the acquisition and life cycle support of a NW and NW system, shall ensure the implementation of this instruction.

b. All DON organizations with NNDM related responsibilities and authorities will conduct self-assessments to ensure compliance with all applicable guidance and direction associated with execution of assigned duties and missions.

c. NNDMOC will review this instruction three years after issuance to assess its effectiveness and propose any required changes.

9. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned according to the records disposition schedules found on the Directives and Records Management Division portal page:  
<https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/SitePages/Home.aspx>.

10. Reports. The reporting requirements contained in paragraphs 7b(1)(b) and 7b(1)(e) are exempt from information collection control per reference (i), part IV paragraphs 7g and 7n.

  
THOMAS B. MODLY  
Under Secretary of the Navy

Distribution:

Electronic only, via Department of the Navy Issuance website:  
<http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil>.