SUBJECT: Defense Crisis Management

References:  (a) Section 113 of title 10, United States Code
(b) DoD Directive 5111.1, “Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)),” December 8, 1999
(e) through (j), see Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE

This Directive establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for defense crisis management within the Department of Defense and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense in Reference (a) and the authority delegated to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)) in Reference (b).

2. APPLICABILITY

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

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Crisis. See Joint Publication 1-02 (Reference (c)).
3.2. **Defense Crisis Management.** The process of developing and executing options, as needed, to prevent, mitigate, or respond to a crisis.

4. **POLICY**

It is DoD policy that:

4.1. The Department of Defense shall have a comprehensive and effective defense crisis management capability, coordinated among the DoD Components, to develop and execute options to prevent, mitigate, or respond to a crisis, under all circumstances.

4.2. Defense crisis management planning and operations shall be coordinated among the DoD Components to assure the Department’s ability to support the President and Secretary of Defense in crises.

4.3. The OSD shall have a crisis management capability to direct and support the overall Department effort, as directed by the Secretary, under all circumstances.

5. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

5.1. The USD(P), in addition to the responsibilities assigned in DoD Directive 5111.1 (Reference (b)), shall:

5.1.1. Serve as the Principal Staff Assistant and advisor to the Secretary of Defense on defense crisis management matters, and in that capacity shall:

5.1.1.1. Develop and coordinate defense crisis management policy guidance and oversee, in coordination with the OSD Principal Staff Assistants and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, plans, programs, procedures, information, and infrastructure required for effective defense crisis management.

5.1.1.2. In coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, oversee the coordination of defense crisis management planning of the DoD Components.

5.1.1.3. Designate an Assistant Secretary of Defense within the office of the USD(P), consistent with that Assistant Secretary’s assigned duties and responsibilities and the specific nature of each crisis, as the senior official responsible for leading the defense crisis management response and ensuring the information needs and other requirements of the Secretary of Defense are met. In accordance with DoD Directive 5111.13 (Reference (d)), the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs (ASD(HD&ASA)) is designated the DoD domestic crisis manager.
5.1.4. Designate the ASD(HD&ASA) to:

5.1.4.1. Establish and oversee, in coordination with the OSD Principal Staff Assistants and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, plans, programs, procedures, information support, and infrastructure required for effective defense crisis management in support of the senior official identified in paragraph 5.1.3.

5.1.4.2. Coordinate with the OSD Principal Staff Assistants and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to ensure crisis management efforts are coordinated with information management, command and control, continuity, mission assurance, and defense support of civil authority efforts.

5.1.2. Provide oversight, in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the DoD Chief Information Officer (DoD CIO), and the Director, Administration and Management (DA&M), for information systems and networks required for defense crisis management activities.

5.1.3. Ensure operations security and public diplomacy requirements are integrated into defense crisis management planning, execution, and operations.

5.1.4. Represent the Secretary of Defense in Federal interagency crisis management matters, and coordinate defense crisis management planning and activities with national domestic and international crisis management efforts.

5.1.5. Determine the requirements for commercial and Federal communications and facilities to support defense crisis management activities and operations.

5.1.6. Ensure defense crisis management activities and operations are included in appropriate DoD exercise activities.

5.2. The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, in addition to the responsibilities assigned in DoD Directive 5124.02 (Reference (e)), shall provide oversight, in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to ensure that the Department’s health and training, personnel, and readiness policies, and practices support defense crisis management.

5.3. The DoD CIO, in addition to the responsibilities assigned in DoD Directive 5144.1 (Reference (f)), shall:

5.3.1. Incorporate defense crisis management capabilities and requirements into enterprise-wide DoD telecommunications, information technology, and command and control plans, programs, architectures, and systems.

5.3.2. In coordination with the USD(P), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the DA&M, oversee the design, development, and management of telecommunications and
information systems required for the conduct of defense crisis management activities and operations.

5.3.3. In coordination with the USD(P), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the DA&M, oversee the design, development, and management of information systems for capturing, archiving, retrieving, and exploiting lessons learned from previous crises and crisis training and exercises.

5.3.4. Based on the requirements provided by the USD(P), identify commercial and Federal communication services and facilities to support defense crisis management activities and operations, as required.

5.4. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, in addition to the responsibilities assigned in DoD Directive 5122.05 (Reference (g)), shall develop public affairs plans, programs, guidance, and procedures to support defense crisis management planning and operations of the DoD Components.

5.5. The DA&M, in addition to the responsibilities assigned in DoD Directive 5105.53 (Reference (h)) and in coordination with the USD(P), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the DoD CIO, shall provide the facilities, infrastructure, communications, and information technology systems to support defense crisis management functions in the National Capital Region.

5.6. The Heads of the DoD Components shall establish and maintain defense crisis management capabilities to support DoD and Component defense crisis management requirements.

5.7. The OSD Principal Staff Assistants shall:

5.7.1. Participate in OSD crisis management planning and preparedness efforts.

5.7.2. Provide personnel to support defense crisis management activities, as required by the USD(P).

5.7.3. Identify information, infrastructure, and technology requirements for defense crisis management-related activities and operations.

5.8. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in addition to the responsibilities assigned in DoD Directive 5100.01 (Reference (i)) and paragraph 5.6., shall:

5.8.1. Serve as the principal military advisor to the Secretary of Defense on defense crisis management-related matters.

5.8.2. Provide advice and support to the USD(P) on defense crisis management policy, planning, and capabilities.
5.8.3. Provide guidance on defense crisis management planning and operations to the Directors of Defense Agencies designated as Combat Support Agencies.

5.8.4. Assure the survivability, reliability, and availability of command and control systems comprising the National Military Command System.

5.8.5. In coordination with the USD(P), the DoD CIO, and the DA&M, develop defense crisis management plans, programs, and systems to support and coordinate the development of policy options and military courses of action.

6. **RELEASABILITY.** UNLIMITED. This Directive is approved for public release and is available on the Internet from the DoD Issuances Website at https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/.

7. **SUMMARY OF CHANGE 2.** This issuance is updated to remove expiration language in accordance with current Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense direction.

8. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Directive is effective immediately.

Enclosure – 1

E1. References, continued
E1. ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES, continued

(f) DoD Directive 5144.1, “Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration/DoD Chief Information Officer (ASD(NII)/DoD CIO),” May 2, 2005
(g) DoD Directive 5122.05, “Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (ASD(PA)),” September 5, 2008
(h) DoD Directive 5105.53, “Director of Administration and Management (DA&M),” February 26, 2008