

Cancelled Oct 5, 1984

May 31, 1979  
NUMBER 5136.1



ASD(C)

## Department of Defense Directive

SUBJECT: Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)

- References:
- (a) DoD Directive 5136.1, "Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)," January 22, 1979 (hereby canceled)
  - (b) Title 10, United States Code, Section 136
  - (c) Title 10, United States Code, Chapter 55, "Medical and Dental Care"
  - (d) DoD Directive 5105.46, "Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services," December 4, 1974
  - (e) DoD Directive 5025.1, "Department of Defense Directives System," November 18, 1977
  - (f) DoD Directive 5000.19, "Policies for the Management and Control of Information Requirements," March 12, 1976
  - (g) DoD Directive 1332.18, "Uniform Interpretation of Laws Relating to Separation from the Military Service by Reason of Physical Disability," September 9, 1968

### A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

1. This Directive reissues reference (a).
2. Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. 136 (reference (b)), as amended, one of the positions of Assistant Secretary of Defense is designated as the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (hereinafter "the ASD(HA)"), with responsibilities, functions, and authorities as prescribed herein.

### B. RESPONSIBILITIES

The ASD(HA) is the principal staff assistant for all Department of Defense (DoD) health matters and, as such, shall:

1. Develop policies, provide advice, make recommendations, and issue guidance on DoD plans and programs.
2. Develop systems, standards, and procedures for the administration and management of approved plans and programs.

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3. Initiate programs, actions, and tasking to ensure (a) adherence to DoD policies and National Health objectives; and (b) that programs are designed to accommodate operational requirements.

4. Review and evaluate programs for carrying out approved policies and standards.

5. Participate in those planning, programing, and budgeting activities which relate to ASD(HA) responsibilities.

6. Promote coordination, cooperation, and mutual understanding within the Department of Defense and between the Department of Defense and other Federal agencies and the civilian community.

7. Serve on boards, committees, and other groups pertaining to assigned functional areas. Also represent the Secretary of Defense on health affairs matters outside the Department of Defense.

8. Establish requirements for DoD research and development programs in medical fields, and keep abreast of technical developments to provide for their orderly transition to operational status.

9. Establish requirements and standards for medical facilities and material acquisition programs.

10. Execute such other responsibilities as may be prescribed.

#### C. FUNCTIONS

The ASD(HA) shall:

1. Carry out the responsibilities described in section B. for the following functional areas:

a. Preventive medicine and health care delivery, including dental affairs.

b. Drug abuse.

c. Alcohol abuse.

d. Procurement, professional development and retention of medical and dental personnel, and related health care specialists.

2. Perform such other functions as may be assigned.

#### D. RELATIONSHIPS

1. In the performance of assigned duties, the ASD(HA) shall:

a. Report directly to the Secretary of Defense.

b. Coordinate and exchange information with other DoD organizations having collateral or related functions.

c. Use existing facilities and services, whenever practicable, to achieve maximum efficiency and economy.

d. Represent the Secretary of Defense, as an ex officio member, on the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

e. Provide policy guidance to, and exercise direction, authority, and control over the Office of Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services consistent with 10 U.S.C. Chapter 55 (reference (c)) and DoD Directive 5105.46 (reference (d)).

f. Provide policy guidance to, and exercise direction, control and authority over the Office of the Tri-Service Medical Information System.

2. All DoD organizations shall coordinate all matters concerning the functions cited in section C. with the ASD(HA).

#### E. AUTHORITIES

1. The ASD(HA) is hereby delegated authority to:

a. Issue DoD Instructions and one-time directive-type memoranda, consistent with the provisions of DoD Directive 5025.1 (reference (e)), which carry out policies approved by the Secretary of Defense in assigned fields of responsibility. Instructions to the Military Departments shall be issued through the Secretaries of those Departments, or their designees. Instructions to Unified or Specified Commands shall be issued through the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

b. Obtain such reports, information, advice, and assistance, consistent with the policies and criteria of DoD Directive 5000.19 (reference (f)), as deemed necessary.

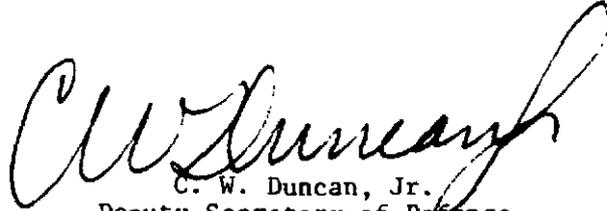
c. Communicate directly with heads of DoD organizations, including the Secretaries of the Military Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Directors of Defense Agencies and, through the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Commanders of Unified and Specified Commands.

d. Make determinations with respect to the uniform implementation of laws relating to separation from the Military Departments by reason of physical disability as prescribed in DoD Directive 1332.18 (reference (g)).

e. Develop, issue, and maintain regulations, with the coordination of the Military Departments, as necessary and appropriate to fulfill the Secretary of Defense's responsibility to administer 10 U.S.C. Chapter 55 (reference (c)).

F. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



C. W. Duncan, Jr.  
Deputy Secretary of Defense