

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 13-520**

**22 AUGUST 2018**



***Nuclear, Space, Missile, Command and  
Control***

***AIRCRAFT AND ICBM NUCLEAR  
OPERATIONS***

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*, is consistent with AFPD 63-1, *Acquisition and Sustainment Life Cycle*, and establishes guidance, and responsibilities to organize, train, equip, certify, decertify, and operationally restrict forces to execute aircraft and intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) nuclear operations. This instruction applies to all Regular Air Force, Air National Guard of the United States, Air Force Reserve, civilian personnel, and contractors tasked with the responsibility to train, operate, maintain, control, safeguard, inspect, manage, account for, or perform nuclear operations tasks.

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authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority, or alternately, to the requestors commander for non-tiered compliance items.

### ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This document has been substantially revised and contains guidance formerly published in AFI 13-530, *Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) Nuclear Operations*, and AFI 13-503, *Nuclear-Capable Unit Certification, Decertification, and Restriction Program*. Changes include the merging of aircraft and ICBM nuclear operations procedures, as well as clarification and updates to Major Command (MAJCOM) and organizational roles and responsibilities. Sole-Vouching Authority procedures have been removed, and readers are directed to source documents as a single point of guidance. With the stand up of Air Forces Strategic, roles of Task Force 204, 214, and 294 have been replaced by the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center. The Nuclear-Capable Unit Certification, Decertification, and Restriction Program has been incorporated, with revisions emphasizing MAJCOM Commanders' authority in regard to unit operational certification and decertification. Additionally, publication references have been updated.

<b>Chapter 1— GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1. Purpose.....	5
1.2. Mission.....	5
1.3. Nuclear Execution Authority.....	5
1.4. Support to Joint/Combined Operations.....	6
1.5. Classification and Security Information.....	6
1.6. Compliance.....	6
<b>Chapter 2— Roles and Responsibilities</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1. Deputy Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10) Responsibilities.....	7
2.2. Major Command Nuclear Operations Responsibilities.....	7
2.3. Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC).....	9
2.4. Air Education and Training Command (AETC).....	10
2.5. Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC).....	10
2.6. Air Force Space Command (AFSPC).....	10
2.7. Air Force Chief of Safety (AF/SE).....	10
2.8. Air Combat Command (ACC).....	10

2.9.	Air Mobility Command (AMC).....	11
2.10.	Pacific Air Forces (PACAF).....	11
2.11.	United States Air Forces in Europe - United States Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFAFRICA). ....	11
2.12.	Lead MAJCOM or Agency. ....	12
2.13.	Director of Public Affairs, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/PA) .....	12
<b>Chapter 3— Bomber Nuclear Operations</b>		<b>13</b>
3.1.	Command Relationships.....	13
3.2.	Directed Requirements. ....	13
3.3.	Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.....	14
3.4.	Operations.....	14
3.5.	Combat Mission Folder. ....	14
3.6.	Planning.....	14
<b>Chapter 4— INtercontinental Ballistic Missile Nuclear Operations</b>		<b>16</b>
4.1.	Command Relationships.....	16
4.2.	Directed Requirements. ....	16
4.3.	Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.....	17
4.4.	Operations.....	17
<b>Chapter 5— Mobility Nuclear Operations</b>		<b>18</b>
5.1.	Command Relationships.....	18
5.2.	Directed Requirements. ....	18
5.3.	Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.....	19
5.4.	Operations.....	19
5.5.	Combat Mission Folder. ....	20
5.6.	Planning.....	20
<b>Chapter 6— Reconnaissance in Support of Nuclear Operations</b>		<b>21</b>
6.1.	Command Relationships.....	21
6.2.	Directed Requirements. ....	21
6.3.	Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.....	22

6.4.	Operations.....	22
6.5.	Combat Mission Folder. ....	22
6.6.	Planning. ....	22
6.7.	Exercises. ....	22
6.8.	Processing Exploitation and Dissemination. ....	23
<b>Chapter 7— Dual Capable Fighter Aircraft</b>		<b>24</b>
7.1.	Command Relationships. ....	24
7.2.	Readiness. ....	24
7.3.	Directed Requirements ....	24
7.4.	Certification, Qualification, and Training Program. ....	24
7.5.	Operations.....	25
7.6.	Combat Mission Folder. ....	25
7.7.	Planning. ....	25
<b>Chapter 8— Nuclear Publications</b>		<b>26</b>
8.1.	Major Command Nuclear Operations Publications. ....	26
<b>Chapter 9— Nuclear-CAPable Unit certification, decertification, and restriction program</b>		<b>27</b>
9.1.	Purpose.....	27
9.2.	Roles and Responsibilities. ....	27
9.3.	Operational Nuclear Certification.....	27
9.4.	Decertification. ....	27
9.5.	Operational Restrictions.....	28
<b>Attachment 1— Glossary of References and Supporting Information</b>		<b>29</b>

## Chapter 1

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**1.1. Purpose.** This Air Force Instruction provides implementation guidance and establishes responsibilities to safely, securely, and effectively conduct aircraft and ICBM nuclear operations. In carrying out aircraft and ICBM nuclear operations, the Air Force:

1.1.1. Promotes a culture of accountability, self-assessment, and uncompromising performance.

1.1.2. Organizes, trains, and equips bomber, fighter, reconnaissance, mobility, air refueling, Air Force Nuclear Command and Control (NC2), and ICBM forces for nuclear combat operations to support Combatant Command missions and requirements, including exercise participation in accordance with the Department of Defense (DoD) Exercise Program.

1.1.3. Conforms to Combatant Command unique organizational structures when under functional command to facilitate alert posture and centralized NC2.

**1.2. Mission.** The Air Force nuclear mission maintains, sustains, postures, deploys, and employs nuclear weapons, weapon delivery systems, and forces in a safe, secure, reliable, and effective manner that serves as a credible deterrent to adversaries and provides assurance to friends and allies. Air Force nuclear operations are conducted in support of national objectives as refined by Combatant Commander requirements. These operations include the day-to-day training and exercises to prepare Air Force combat forces to conduct nuclear operations and execute nuclear strikes, when directed. Roles and Responsibilities specific to the nuclear mission can be found in AFD 13-5.

1.2.1. The Air Force nuclear mission supports strategic, operational, and tactical operations by providing flexible nuclear deterrence and assurance capabilities to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense, Combatant Commanders, and our allies and partners.

1.2.2. Nuclear mission support personnel ensure combat crews are provided equipment, materials, and training to enhance readiness, facilitate planning, build war fighting capability, and execute assigned missions.

**1.3. Nuclear Execution Authority.** The President of the United States retains sole authority for the execution and termination of nuclear options.

1.3.1. Nuclear Command and Control is the exercise of authority and direction by the President, as Commander-in-Chief of the United States Armed Forces, through established national command authority lines, over nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon systems, and nuclear weapon operations of military forces.

1.3.2. The Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications (NC3) System is the means through which Presidential authority is exercised and operational NC2 is conducted. The NC3 System is part of the larger National Leadership Command Capability, which encompasses the three broad mission areas of: (1) Presidential and senior leader communications; (2) NC3; and (3) Continuity of operations and continuity of government communications.

**1.4. Support to Joint/Combined Operations.** Air Force nuclear operations support joint operations based on operation plan requirements. Air Force nuclear capabilities provide flexible nuclear options to Combatant Commanders and underpin the *United States National Security Strategy* and *National Defense Strategy*.

**1.5. Classification and Security Information.** Refer to AFI 16-1404, *Air Force Information Security Program*, TCG-WPMU-3, (S//RD) *Joint DOE/DoD Topical Classification Guide for Weapon Production and Military Use (U)*, for Classification and Security Information.

**1.6. Compliance.** Commanders at all levels have a responsibility to ensure compliance with:

1.6.1. Nuclear surety standards, safety and security requirements, and custody responsibilities. (T-0). This includes Prime Nuclear Airlift Force missions, NC3 facilities, special nuclear material, airborne launch control system, dual capable fighter aircraft assigned to the Commander United States European Command, and assets deployed in support of Allied Command Operations. (T-0).

1.6.2. Security policies and procedures governed by DoD Manual (DoDM) S-5210.41\_AFMAN 31-108, (U) *Nuclear Weapon Security Manual*, (T-0); AFI 31-101, *Integrated Defense*, (T-0); Allied Command Operations (ACO) Directive 80-6, *Nuclear Surety Management for the Weapon Storage and Security System*, as applicable, (T-0); MAJCOM supplements (T-2), and localized unit supplements (T-3). Allied Command Operations Directives are maintained by Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe/North Atlantic Treaty Organization (SHAPE/NATO).

1.6.3. In the absence of specific MAJCOM guidance for dual capable fighter aircraft operations outside of the Commander United States European Command's Area of Responsibility, MAJCOMs will follow the guidance outlined in United States Air Forces in Europe Instruction (USAFEI) 13-520, *Dual Capable Aircraft Nuclear Training, Planning, and Operational Procedures: F-15E/F-16*, (T-2), ACO Directive 80-6 (T-0), DoDM S-5210.41\_AFMAN 31-108 (T-0), and AFI 31-101 (T-0). Allied Command Operations Directives are maintained by SHAPE/NATO.

## Chapter 2

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**2.1. Deputy Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10) Responsibilities.** AF/A10 serves as the Headquarters Air Force (HAF) accountable officer responsible to the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force for the Air Force Nuclear Mission. AF/A10 provides direction, guidance, integration, and advocacy regarding the Air Force nuclear deterrence mission in accordance with Title 10 United States Code (USC) § 8040, *Oversight of Nuclear Deterrence Mission*. Refer to AFPD 13-5 and HAF Mission Directive (MD) 1-60, *Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration* for nuclear mission responsibilities. Additional AF/A10 responsibilities for nuclear operations include:

- 2.1.1. Coordinate with Air Force Departmental Publishing Office to ensure distribution of updated nuclear policy and guidance to the MAJCOMs.
- 2.1.2. Monitor and review MAJCOM nuclear support plans and programs to ensure Combatant Command requirements are achieved.
- 2.1.3. Coordinate with MAJCOMs to ensure nuclear operations support is available to accomplish operational commander's objectives.
- 2.1.4. Oversee nuclear capabilities and skill sets contained within each MAJCOM.
- 2.1.5. Conduct/host Air Force nuclear operations conferences, as required.
- 2.1.6. Set policy and provide guidance for the conduct and execution of the crew training program for nuclear operations.
- 2.1.7. Monitor and review MAJCOM, weapon systems, and program instructions to ensure MAJCOM policies, guidance, and instructions are adequate and consistent with this directive.
- 2.1.8. In conjunction with the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations (AF/A3), identify Formal Training Unit shortfalls to AF/A3 and the Air Force corporate structure.
- 2.1.9. Function as the Air Force point of contact for NC2-Extremely Sensitive Information and Personnel Reliability Assurance Program policy and guidance.

**2.2. Major Command Nuclear Operations Responsibilities.** Major Command commanders with nuclear mission responsibilities and equities will ensure safe, secure, and effective nuclear operations, including day-to-day responsibility for assigned nuclear forces. It is imperative that commanders at all levels promote a professional culture of excellence, accountability, and uncompromising standards. To that end, MAJCOM commanders with nuclear missions shall:

- 2.2.1. Ensure Air Force units tasked to conduct nuclear operations plan and develop implementing instructions for day-to-day, crisis, and wartime operations, including augmentation of joint forces.
- 2.2.2. Manage resources and provide training to personnel in subordinate organizations for nuclear operations.

- 2.2.3. Develop and manage nuclear operations capabilities and skill sets to ensure effective application during deliberate and adaptive planning, as well as contingency execution.
- 2.2.4. Support wing commander requests for a Nuclear Surety Staff Assistance Visit or Nuclear Staff Assistance Visits (tankers or reconnaissance units) with subject matter, functional, and technical expert visits and reviews.
- 2.2.5. Coordinate nuclear operations exercise activity and participation requirements in accordance with AFI 10-204, *Participation in Joint and National Exercises*.
- 2.2.5.1. Provide assistance to subordinate Numbered Air Forces/units in addressing exercise-related training, manpower, equipment, and communication requirements.
- 2.2.5.2. Provide a nuclear operations focal point for participation in Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff-sponsored joint and combined exercises.
- 2.2.6. Advocate fielding of systems and related training, connectivity, and maintenance.
- 2.2.6.1. Establish and coordinate system requirements with Headquarters Air Force, Strategic Plans, Programs, and Requirements (AF/A5R) and subordinate organizations.
- 2.2.6.2. Ensure simultaneous availability of developed training and technical support for every fielded nuclear system and nuclear support system.
- 2.2.6.3. Develop formal feedback, upgrade, acquisition, and product improvement processes.
- 2.2.7. Ensure readiness reporting requirements for nuclear operations, to include NC3 outage reporting, are appropriately covered in resource and capability reporting, the Air and Space Expeditionary Force Reporting Tool, and the Defense Readiness Reporting System.
- 2.2.8. Posture and code Unit Type Code accounting for all nuclear operations authorizations. Review applicable MAJCOM Air and Space Expeditionary Force Reporting Tool requirements to ensure accurate and timely reporting.
- 2.2.8.1. Coordinate development and validation of aircraft nuclear support operations and nuclear operations related Unit Type Codes.
- 2.2.8.2. Provide oversight of aircraft nuclear operations Unit Type Code management, and, if appropriate, inform the Air Staff Functional Manager of any Unit Type Code-related problems.
- 2.2.9. Represent the nuclear operations mission, and actively participate in Realistic Training Review Boards and Weapons and Tactics Conferences. Manage nuclear operations tactics and training improvement proposals advocated to the MAJCOM through the above mentioned venues.
- 2.2.10. Provide a nuclear operations focal point for deliberate planning, review, and evaluation of applicable annexes within Joint Chiefs of Staff, HAF, Numbered Air Force, and MAJCOM wartime operation plans, policy, and guidance.
- 2.2.11. Manage planning, programming, distributing, and execution of aircraft and ICBM nuclear-related resources.



2.2.12. Establish an office of primary responsibility to manage the Nuclear Weapon System Evaluation Program.

2.2.13. Provide nuclear operations support to Air Force planning and weapon system lifecycle activities including: research, development, test, and sustainment.

2.2.14. Establish an office of primary responsibility to develop and implement nuclear operations training programs.

2.2.15. Ensure MAJCOM Public Affairs office implements DoD approved policies in accordance with AFI 35-101, *Public Affairs Responsibilities and Management*, to establish and conduct efficient and effective procedures for the release of nuclear activity information to the public (domestic, international), to include: nuclear accidents, improvised nuclear device incidents, or nuclear weapon significant incidents.

2.2.16. Adhere to MAJCOM NC3 responsibilities as outlined in AFI 13-550, *Air Force Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications (NC3)*.

2.2.17. Provide policy and guidance pertaining to the utilization of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units.

**2.3. Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC).** As a component MAJCOM of United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), AFGSC provides combat ready forces for deterrence and global strike operations on behalf of the President of the United States and Combatant Commanders. Reference Air Force Mission Directive (AFMD) 63, *Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC)*, for nuclear mission-related responsibilities. Additional responsibilities for nuclear operations include:

2.3.1. Develop nuclear support plans, and procedures to conduct and sustain nuclear operations.

2.3.2. Establish consistent guidance and procedures across their portion of the nuclear mission, required at the operational level, to meet commander's objectives.

2.3.2.1. Publish guidance for standardized nuclear mission materials for operational use.

2.3.2.2. Develop a minimum list of nuclear operations documents and products for units, and assist in producing these documents and products.

2.3.3. Develop procedures and guidance required for effectively training, evaluating, and certifying/qualifying combat crews (aircraft, ICBM, and airborne launch control system), test operators, code controllers, code handlers, and support personnel.

2.3.4. Ensure operational procedures contained in technical orders, checklists, and operations manuals are standardized, accurate, and effective for mission accomplishment.

2.3.5. Develop procedures and guidance regarding AFGSC Operations Review Boards. Provide beginning-to-end management and oversight of the Operations Review Board process.

2.3.6. Develop supplemental policy and guidance consistent with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and USSTRATCOM directives on training, certification, evaluation, coding and code handling procedures, contingency procedures, emergency procedures, procedures for reporting violations to codes, and Emergency Action Procedures.

2.3.7. Define and establish Assignment Availability Codes in accordance with AFI 36-2110, *Assignments*, for Missile Combat Crew and Missile Combat Crew-Airborne officers.

2.3.8. Establish an office of primary responsibility to manage aircraft and ICBM operational test and evaluation programs.

2.3.9. Monitor, assess, and report to USSTRATCOM on unit capability to implement operation plan requirements.

2.3.10. Coordinate on USSTRATCOM policy and procedures.

2.3.11. Establish specific requirements for certifying officials, crewmembers, controllers, and other specialties, as needed, to ensure all crew members are capable of executing nuclear mission requirements.

2.3.12. Provide policy and guidance pertaining to the overall utilization of assigned individual mobilization augmentees and Air Reserve Component units.

2.3.13. Designate a nuclear operations functional manager to advocate for combat training range equipment and modernization requirements.

**2.4. Air Education and Training Command (AETC).** AETC is the single point of contact for nuclear force development, as chartered by the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force. AETC is responsible for all training, education, and experience as directed by the Commander, AFGSC across the nuclear mission.

**2.5. Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC).** AFMC provides effective nuclear materiel management support to the warfighter by managing human capital, organizations, processes, procedures, and systems used to conduct, execute, and support nuclear deterrence. Reference, AFMD 4, *Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC)*, and AFMC Instruction 90-204, *Nuclear Materiel Management*, for nuclear-related responsibilities.

**2.6. Air Force Space Command (AFSPC).** AFSPC provides resilient space and cyberspace capabilities to Joint warfighters. AFSPC responsibilities for nuclear operations include:

2.6.1. Ensure assigned NC3 systems meet objectives and operational requirements, participate in exercises, technical tests, technical analysis, simulation, and wargaming techniques.

2.6.2. Direct and develop supplemental policy and guidance, advocate funding, and oversee launch and range operations to support the ICBM operational test launch program.

**2.7. Air Force Chief of Safety (AF/SE).** AF/SE provides capabilities to identify, assess, and mitigate strategic, operational, and tactical risks to the safe accomplishment of the nuclear mission. Reference HAFMD 1-46, *Chief of Safety*, and AFMD 44, *Air Force Safety Center*, for nuclear-related responsibilities.

**2.8. Air Combat Command (ACC).** ACC provides combat airpower in support of nuclear related operations plans.

2.8.1. ACC, as lead command for dual capable fighter aircraft, will manage all dual capable fighter aircraft certifications, operational tests and evaluation programs. These actions will be coordinated with the appropriate using commands.

**2.9. Air Mobility Command (AMC).** AMC provides worldwide nuclear-related cargo and passenger delivery, air refueling, and aeromedical evacuation of nuclear forces in support of nuclear-related operations plans. Reference AFPD 10-21, *Air Mobility Lead Command Roles and Responsibilities*, for Mobility Air Forces command responsibilities.

**2.10. Pacific Air Forces (PACAF).** PACAF delivers rapid and precise air, space, and cyberspace capabilities to protect and defend the United States, its territories, and allies and partners.

**2.11. United States Air Forces in Europe - United States Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFAFRICA).** USAFE-AFAFRICA provides dual capable fighter aircraft forces to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in coordination with United States European Command (USEUCOM). USAFE-AFAFRICA responsibilities for nuclear operations include:

2.11.1. Develop nuclear support plans, policies, and procedures to conduct and sustain nuclear operations.

2.11.2. Establish consistent guidance and procedures across its portion of the nuclear mission set, required at the operational level, to meet commander's objectives.

2.11.3. Develop policy and guidance required for effectively training, evaluating, and certifying/qualifying combat crews, test operators, and support personnel.

2.11.4. Ensure operational procedures contained in technical orders, checklists, and operations manuals are standardized, accurate, and effective for mission accomplishment. For documents not managed by USAFE-AFAFRICA, coordinate necessary revisions with the appropriate Office of Primary Responsibility.

2.11.5. Develop supplemental policy and guidance, consistent with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, USSTRATCOM, and USEUCOM directives, on training, certification, evaluation, contingency procedures, emergency procedures, and Emergency Action Procedures.

2.11.6. Coordinate with ACC to manage aircraft and operational test and evaluation programs.

2.11.7. Monitor, assess, and report to USSTRATCOM and USEUCOM on unit capability to implement operation plan requirements.

2.11.8. Be prepared to coordinate on USSTRATCOM and USEUCOM policy and procedures.

2.11.9. Establish specific requirements for certifying officials, crewmembers, controllers, and other specialties as needed to accomplish their prospective nuclear mission. USAFE-AFAFRICA is responsible for establishing a certification program to ensure all crew members are capable of executing all mission sets.

2.11.10. Report in accordance with AFI 10-206, *Operational Reporting; Emergency Action Procedures of the Commander, United States European Command (EAP-EUCOM)*, Volume I; *Emergency Action Procedures of the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff*, Volume IX, Annex D; and *CJCS LERTCON Procedures*, EUCOM Annex.

2.11.11. Provide the appropriate numbers and types of personnel to execute USSTRATCOM and USEUCOM operation plan requirements.

**2.12. Lead MAJCOM or Agency.** AFPD 10-9, *Lead Command Designation and Responsibilities for Weapon Systems*, establishes a lead command MAJCOM and user commands for each mission design series. Lead MAJCOM Commanders shall:

2.12.1. Develop and manage, in coordination with user commands, the appropriate MAJCOM instructions to standardize aircraft and ICBM nuclear operations training requirements, and nuclear command and control procedures, regardless of mission designation and command assignment. The lead and user MAJCOMs shall elevate any unresolved differences to AF/A10 for final resolution.

2.12.1.1. Attend mission design series-specific training conferences as hosted by Lead MAJCOMs.

2.12.1.2. Develop and maintain a master question file for weapon systems, nuclear functions, and activities for which they are designated lead MAJCOM.

**2.13. Director of Public Affairs, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/PA) .**

2.13.1. Air Force Public Affairs activities shall contribute to DoD objectives by communicating information about all Air Force nuclear mission activities to domestic, international, and internal audiences, in accordance with DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5160.70, *Management of DoD Language and Regional Proficiency Capabilities* and DoD Directive (DoDD) 5230.16, *Nuclear Accident and Incident Public Affairs Guidance*.

2.13.2. When delegated from Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, the Secretary of the Air Force for Public Affairs retains the responsibility for all public information regarding all Air Force nuclear activities, weapons accidents, and significant incidents.

2.13.3. In coordination with Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Secretary of the Air Force for Public Affairs provides public affairs guidance and instructions to ensure timely and uniform implementation of the DoD-approved policies to establish and conduct efficient and effective procedures for the release of information to the public in the event of nuclear accidents, improvised nuclear devices incidents, or nuclear weapon significant incidents.

## Chapter 3

### BOMBER NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

**3.1. Command Relationships.** In accordance with the DoD issued Global Force Management Implementation Guidance, in support of operational plan requirements, USSTRATCOM has Combatant Command authority of specified bomber forces. Air Forces Strategic-Air (AFSTRAT-Air) is the AFGSC permanent air component to USSTRATCOM for carrying out day-to-day activities. AFSTRAT-Air operations are run through the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center.

### 3.2. Directed Requirements.

3.2.1. AFGSC Responsibilities. AFGSC and AFGSC-gained units shall report in accordance with AFI 10-206, Emergency Action Procedures-Strategic (EAP-STRAT) Volume 11, (S) *LERTCON System* (U), and EAP-STRAT Volume 12, *Nuclear Operations Reporting*, and Strategic Command Instruction (SI) 501-14, (S) *Strategic Force Accounting Procedures* (U). (T-0).

#### 3.2.2. Unit Responsibilities.

3.2.2.1. Be prepared to, and generate forces in accordance with Operation Order GLOBAL CITADEL. (T-0).

3.2.2.2. Advise AFGSC via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any issues that would affect the ability to accomplish the nuclear mission. (T-2).

3.2.2.3. Develop procedures to ensure the Alert Force is able to support nuclear operations. (T-2).

3.2.2.4. Ensure personnel are trained and capable of executing recovery and regeneration missions, as defined by AFGSC, if applicable. (T-2).

3.2.3. AFGSC Mission Generation and Pre-launch Procedures. The Joint-Global Strike Operations Center shall ensure units receive USSTRATCOM-generated orders so the unit can conduct, or be ready to conduct, assigned missions.

#### 3.2.4. Unit Mission Generation and Pre-launch Procedures.

3.2.4.1. Provide security, maintenance, and logistical support to the Alert Force. Air Force priority is to nuclear-capable bomber and nuclear support aircraft/equipment. Advise USSTRATCOM, via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center, of any issues that affect the Alert Force. (T-2).

3.2.4.2. Nuclear Surety Responsibilities. See AFI 91-101, *Air Force Nuclear Weapons Surety Program* for Nuclear Surety Responsibilities, Two-Person Control, and associated waiver authority/request instructions.

3.2.5. AFGSC Employment Procedures. The Joint-Global Strike Operations Center shall monitor and support the generation of allocated assets.

#### 3.2.6. Unit Employment Procedures.

3.2.6.1. Follow all operational restrictions while employing a nuclear weapon. Additionally, refer to AFI 91-111, *Safety Rules for US Strategic Bomber Aircraft*, and technical orders for detailed descriptions of procedures and safety rules. (T-0).

3.2.6.2. Follow all MAJCOM-established guidance for Abort, Termination, Weapon Retention, and Jettison Procedures. (T-2).

3.2.6.3. Upon direction, generate forces in accordance with applicable operation orders and MAJCOM guidance. Advise any deviations to USSTRATCOM via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center. (T-0).

3.2.7. AFGSC Recovery and Regeneration Procedures.

3.2.7.1. Establish procedures for survival and regeneration of USSTRATCOM bomber forces in accordance with USSTRATCOM directives.

3.2.7.2. Support recovery and regeneration of all DoD forces. Major Commands shall support recovery and regeneration sustainment missions.

3.2.8. Unit Recovery and Regeneration Procedures. Support recovery and regeneration of any DoD forces in accordance with Combatant Command and MAJCOM established procedures and directives. (T-0).

**3.3. Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.** AFGSC shall define general policy, operation plan study and certification program, recurring operation plan study program and general knowledge, aircrew NC2 procedures training, strategic communications training, and other requirements and information, as appropriate.

**3.4. Operations.** AFSTRAT defines the following based on USSTRATCOM requirements: generation requirements, generation ground rules, generation rates, residual resources, deployment procedures, alert generation procedures, operations, alert procedures, weather impacts, alert maintenance, operation plan launch, forward operation location, BUGGY RIDE, survival launch, positive control and emergency launch options, takeoff to departure point, turnaround times, dispersal, air refueling planning, reconnaissance reserve forces, aircraft regeneration, launch and mission decision checklists, takeoff and abort procedures, en route aborts, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

**3.5. Combat Mission Folder.** AFSTRAT defines general instructions; security instructions; documentation control and standardization procedures; operation plan mission preparation and responsibilities; reproduction of combat mission folder materials; combat mission folder validation and certification; time factors for preparation, assembly, validation and certification; control, issue, and storage of combat mission folders; combat mission folder change procedures; instructions for preparation for operation plan materials; crew copy formats and checklists; Nuclear Execution Report and checklists; forward operating location; BUGGY RIDE; and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**3.6. Planning.** AFSTRAT defines takeoff criteria, weather factors, airspeeds, refueling, high altitude planning factors, aircraft loading and mission planning summary, basic weight considerations, mission planning factors, minimum runway for operation plan and crisis

situations, ground rules for computer-generated data, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

## Chapter 4

### INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

**4.1. Command Relationships.** In accordance with the DoD issued Global Force Management Implementation Guidance, in support of operational plan requirements, USSTRATCOM has Combatant Command authority of the ICBM forces. AFSTRAT-Air is the AFGSC permanent air component to USSTRATCOM for carrying out day-to-day activities. AFSTRAT-Air operations are run through the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center.

#### **4.2. Directed Requirements.**

##### 4.2.1. AFGSC Responsibilities.

4.2.1.1. AFGSC and AFGSC-gained units shall report in accordance with AFI 10-206, EAP-STRAT Volumes 11 and 12, and SI 501-14. See source document for waiver authority/request instructions.

##### 4.2.2. Unit Responsibilities.

4.2.2.1. Be prepared to generate training and other off alert sorties to alert in accordance with Operation Order GLOBAL CITADEL. (T-0).

4.2.2.2. Advise AFGSC via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any issues that would affect the ability to accomplish the nuclear mission. (T-2).

4.2.2.3. Develop procedures to ensure the Alert Force is able to support nuclear operations. (T-2).

4.2.2.4. Provide security, maintenance, and logistical support to the Alert Force. Advise USSTRATCOM via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any issues that affect the Alert Force. (T-0).

4.2.2.5. Upon direction, generate forces in accordance with applicable operation orders and MAJCOM guidance. Advise USSTRATCOM via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any deviations. (T-0).

4.2.3. AFGSC Employment Procedures. The Joint-Global Strike Operations Center shall monitor and support the generation of allocated assets.

##### 4.2.4. Unit Employment Procedures.

4.2.4.1. Follow all operational restrictions while employing a nuclear weapon. Additionally, refer to AFI 91-114, *Safety Rules for the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile System*, and technical orders for detailed descriptions of procedures and safety rules. (T-0).

4.2.4.2. Nuclear Surety Responsibilities. See AFI 91-101 for Nuclear Surety Responsibilities, Two Person Control, and associated waiver authority/request instructions.

4.2.5. AFGSC Recovery and Regeneration procedures. Support recovery and regeneration of all DoD forces. Major Commands shall support recovery and regeneration sustainment missions.



**4.3. Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.** AFGSC shall define general policy, operation plan study and certification program, recurring operation plan study program and general knowledge, aircrew NC2 procedures training and strategic communications, and other requirements and information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**4.4. Operations.** AFGSC shall define the following based on USSTRATCOM requirements: generation requirements, generation ground rules, generation rates, residual resources, deployment procedures, alert generation procedures, operations, alert procedures, weather impacts, alert maintenance, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

## Chapter 5

### MOBILITY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

**5.1. Command Relationships.** In accordance with the DoD issued Global Force Management Implementation Guidance, in support of operation plan requirements, upon President of the United States/Secretary of Defense directed generation, United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) retains Operational Control of Mobility Air Forces assets except as noted otherwise in the Global Force Management Allocation Plan or by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Execution Order. As supporting Commands, United States Transportation Command, United States European Command, and United States Pacific Command remain responsible for all logistics and maintenance support of assets that change operational control to USSTRATCOM in support of operation plan requirements.

5.1.1. This chapter applies to nuclear contingency support mobility operations. Nuclear Airlift conducted by Prime Nuclear Airlift Force, Department of Energy Special Nuclear Material missions, or Emergency Nuclear Airlift Operations are spelled out in AFI 13-526, *Prime Nuclear Airlift Force Operations*.

5.1.2. Supporting Commands shall establish policy for their respective units in accordance with this directive. For the purpose of this chapter, Continental United States National Guard Bureau and Air Force Reserve Command MAJCOM responsibilities fall under AMC in accordance with lead command guidance for applicable Mobility Air Forces assets from AFD 10-9.

### 5.2. Directed Requirements.

#### 5.2.1. Major Command Responsibilities.

5.2.1.1. Monitor, assess, and report to USTRANSCOM and the Joint Force Air Component Commander to USSTRATCOM, as applicable, on unit capability to implement operation plan requirements.

5.2.1.2. Be prepared to support the implementation of nuclear support operations by developing appropriate policies and procedures.

5.2.1.3. Be prepared to coordinate on USSTRATCOM and USSTRATCOM Joint Force Air Component Commander policy and procedures.

5.2.1.4. Establish procedures for survival and regeneration of applicable Mobility Air Forces.

5.2.1.5. Advise USSTRATCOM Joint Force Air Component Commander and Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any unit issues that would affect the ability to accomplish a nuclear support mission tasking.

#### 5.2.2. Tanker units identified by their MAJCOM Support Plan have a responsibility to:

5.2.2.1. Be prepared to generate forces in accordance with operation orders and MAJCOM Instructions.

5.2.2.2. Be prepared to generate forces to alert in accordance with Operation Order GLOBAL CITADEL.

5.2.2.3. Advise their respective MAJCOMs of any issues that would affect their ability to accomplish the nuclear support mission.

5.2.2.4. Develop procedures to ensure the Alert Force is able to support nuclear operations.

5.2.2.5. Ensure personnel are trained and capable of executing recovery and regeneration missions, as defined by MAJCOM, if applicable.

5.2.2.6. Report in accordance with AFI 10-206, EAP-STRAT Volumes 11 and 12, and SI 501-14, as applicable. See source document for waiver authority/request instructions.

5.2.3. Major Command Generation Responsibilities. Major Commands shall monitor and support the generation of allocated assets. Major Commands shall advise the USSTRATCOM Joint Force Air Component Commander of any deviations.

5.2.4. Unit Generation Responsibilities. Upon direction, generate forces in accordance with applicable operation orders and MAJCOM guidance. (T-0).

5.2.5. Major Command Alert Responsibilities. Monitor and support the Alert Force. Advise USSTRATCOM Joint Force Air Component Commander and Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any issues that affect the Alert Force.

5.2.6. Unit Alert Responsibilities. Support and sustain the Alert Force. Units are responsible for providing security, maintenance, and logistical support to the Alert Force. (T-2).

5.2.7. Major Command Deployment Responsibilities. Ensure plans are in place for deployment of nuclear support operations forces by air, sea, or land, as necessary. Unless pre-coordinated, standard Joint Operation Planning and Execution System procedures apply.

5.2.8. Unit Deployment Responsibilities. Ensure personnel are trained for deployment requirements particular to operation plan support, as required by MAJCOM Support Plans and Instructions. (T-2).

5.2.9. Major Command Recovery and Regeneration Procedures. Support recovery and regeneration of all DoD forces and sustainment missions.

5.2.10. Unit Recovery and Regeneration Procedures. Support recovery and regeneration of any DoD forces. (T-2).

### **5.3. Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.**

5.3.1. Major Commands shall establish specific requirements needed for certifying officials, crewmembers, controllers, and other specialties, as needed, to accomplish their prospective nuclear mission.

5.3.2. AMC and AMC-gained tanker units are responsible for establishing a certification program to ensure all applicable aircrew are capable of executing all Nuclear Deterrence Operations mission sets.

**5.4. Operations.** AMC shall define the following based on USSTRATCOM requirements: generation requirements, generation ground rules, generation rates, residual resources, deployment procedures, alert generation procedures, operations, alert procedures, weather impacts, alert maintenance, operation plan launch, forward operation location, BUGGY RIDE,

survival launch, positive control and emergency launch options, takeoff to departure point, turnaround times, dispersal, air refueling planning, reconnaissance reserve forces, aircraft regeneration, launch and mission decision checklists, takeoff and abort procedures, en route aborts, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

**5.5. Combat Mission Folder.** AMC shall define general instructions; security instructions; documentation control and standardization procedures; operation plan mission preparation and responsibilities; reproduction of combat mission folder materials; combat mission folder validation and certification; time factors for preparation, assembly, validation and certification, control, issuance, and storage of combat mission folders; combat mission folder change procedures; instructions for preparation for operation plan materials; crew copy formats and checklists; Nuclear Execution Report and checklists; forward operating location; BUGGY RIDE, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**5.6. Planning.** AMC shall define takeoff criteria, weather factors, airspeeds, refueling, high altitude planning factors, aircraft loading and mission planning summary, basic weight considerations, mission planning factors, minimum runway for operation plan and crisis situations, ground rules for computer-generated data, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

## Chapter 6

### RECONNAISSANCE IN SUPPORT OF NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

**6.1. Command Relationships.** In accordance with the DoD issued Global Force Management Implementation Guidance, in support of operation plan requirements, USSTRATCOM gains Operational Control of specified Reconnaissance in Support of Nuclear Operations assets.

**6.2. Directed Requirements.**

6.2.1. ACC Responsibilities.

6.2.1.1. Monitor, assess, and report to USSTRATCOM on unit capability to implement operation plan requirements.

6.2.1.2. Be prepared to implement nuclear operations by developing appropriate policies and procedures.

6.2.1.3. Be prepared to coordinate on USSTRATCOM policy and procedures.

6.2.1.4. Establish procedures for BUGGY RIDE and regeneration of USSTRATCOM Reconnaissance in Support of Nuclear Operations forces.

6.2.2. Unit Responsibilities.

6.2.2.1. Be prepared to generate forces in accordance with Operation Order GLOBAL CITADEL. (T-0).

6.2.2.2. Advise ACC of any issues that would affect unit's ability to accomplish their nuclear support mission. (T-2).

6.2.2.3. Develop procedures to ensure Alert Force is able to support nuclear operations. (T-2).

6.2.2.4. Ensure personnel are trained and capable of executing recovery and regeneration missions, as defined by ACC, if applicable. (T-2).

6.2.2.5. Report in accordance with AFI 10-206, EAP-STRAT Volumes 11 and 12, and SI 501-14, as applicable. (T-0).

6.2.3. ACC Generation Responsibilities. Monitor and support the generation of allocated assets.

6.2.4. Unit Generation Responsibilities. Upon direction, generate forces in accordance with applicable operation orders and ACC guidance. Advise USSTRATCOM Joint Force Air Component Commander via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any deviations. (T-0).

6.2.5. MAJCOM Alert Responsibilities.

6.2.5.1. USSTRATCOM and ACC shall provide procedures to carry-out alert operations.

6.2.5.2. ACC shall monitor and support the Alert Force.

6.2.6. Unit Alert Responsibilities. Units are responsible for providing security, maintenance, and logistical support to the Alert Force. Advise USSTRATCOM Joint Force Air

Component Commander via the Joint-Global Strike Operations Center of any issues that affect the Alert Force. (T-2).

6.2.7. ACC Recovery and Regeneration Procedures. Support recovery and regeneration of all DoD forces, and sustainment missions.

6.2.8. Unit Recovery and Regeneration Procedures. To the maximum extent possible, units have a responsibility to support recovery and regeneration of any DoD forces.

**6.3. Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.** ACC shall define general policy, operation plan study and certification program, recurring operation plan study program and general knowledge, aircrew NC2 procedures training and strategic communications, and other requirements and information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**6.4. Operations.** ACC shall define the following based on USSTRATCOM requirements: generation requirements, generation ground rules, generation rates, residual resources, deployment procedures, alert generation procedures, operations, alert procedures, weather impacts, alert maintenance, operation plan launch, forward operation location, BUGGY RIDE, survival launch, positive control and emergency launch options, takeoff to departure point, turnaround times, dispersal, air refueling planning, reconnaissance reserve forces, aircraft regeneration, launch and mission decision checklists, takeoff and abort procedures, en route aborts, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

**6.5. Combat Mission Folder.** ACC shall define general instructions; security instructions; documentation control and standardization procedures; operation plan mission preparation and responsibilities; reproduction of combat mission folder materials; combat mission folder validation and certification; time factors for preparation, assembly, validation, and certification; control, issuance, and storage of combat mission folders; combat mission folder change procedures; instructions for preparation for operation plan materials; contents of Employment Mission Folders and Dispersal / Deployment Mission Folders; crew copy formats and checklists; Nuclear Execution Report and checklists; forward operating location; BUGGY RIDE; and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**6.6. Planning.** ACC shall define takeoff criteria, weather factors, airspeeds, refueling, altitude planning factors, probability of survival factors, aircraft loading and mission planning summary, basic weight considerations, mission planning factors, minimum runway for operation plan and crisis situations, ground rules for computer generated data, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

**6.7. Exercises.** ACC shall, based on USSTRATCOM requirements, define responsibilities, exercise policy, requirements, exercise tasking, credit and waiver, management and reporting, exercise execution, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**6.8. Processing Exploitation and Dissemination.** Twenty-fifth Air Force shall manage Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination systems, forces, and policy supporting nuclear operations. Twenty-fifth Air Force shall define requirements for, and ensure units train on USSTRATCOM required reporting, alternate means to pass information, routing information, and other requirements and information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in Twenty-fifth Air Force instructions and supplements to this AFI.

## Chapter 7

### DUAL CAPABLE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT

**7.1. Command Relationships.** USAFE-AFAFRICA is a component MAJCOM of United USEUCOM and United States Africa Command. It is responsible for organizing, training, equipping, and presenting dual capable fighter aircraft forces to NATO in coordination with USEUCOM.

#### **7.2. Readiness.**

7.2.1. Nuclear Readiness Requirement. Nuclear readiness levels are directed by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 3110.04B, *Nuclear Supplement to the Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan*.

7.2.2. Readiness categories for the nuclear mission drive nuclear certification and training requirements. Reference the USAFEI 13-520 for specifics concerning readiness levels.

7.2.3. Wing Nuclear Operations Plan. Designated dual capable fighter aircraft wings shall produce a written "Wing Nuclear Operations Plan" to describe what steps are necessary to prepare for nuclear operations within the time limit of its readiness category. (T-2).

7.2.3.1. Designated dual capable fighter aircraft wings shall extract applicable data from existing conventional deployment preparations plans, as required, to complete the "Wing Nuclear Operations Plan." (T-2). The MAJCOM shall assist wings, as necessary. Each wing shall accomplish an annual review of its "Wing Nuclear Operations Plan." (T-2).

7.2.3.2. Designated dual capable fighter aircraft units shall account for time to accomplish operations, maintenance, and security personnel training qualification and certification, to accomplish the necessary logistic preparation, to deploy to another location (if required), to receive any additional theater area of responsibility training, and be ready to employ nuclear weapons. (T-3).

#### **7.3. Directed Requirements**

7.3.1. USEUCOM/NATO generates strike mission generation orders for the appropriate actions, so units can conduct, or be ready to conduct, assigned missions.

7.3.2. Unit Mission Generation and Pre-launch Procedures. Generate aircraft when notified and tasked by the proper authority. (T-0).

7.3.3. USAFE-AFAFRICA Employment Procedures. In coordination with NATO guidance and directives, provide guidance for abort, termination, weapon retention, jettison, and all other applicable nuclear weapon employment procedures.

7.3.4. Unit Employment Procedures. Follow all operation restrictions while employing a nuclear weapon. Additionally, refer to AFI 91-112, *Safety Rules for US/NATO Strike Fighters*, and appropriate aircraft technical orders for detailed descriptions of procedures and safety rules. (T-0).

**7.4. Certification, Qualification, and Training Program.** USAFE-AFAFRICA, in coordination with NATO guidance and directives, shall define general policy, operation plan study and certification program, recurring operation plan study program and general knowledge,



aircrew NC2 procedures training and strategic communications, and other requirements and information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**7.5. Operations.** USAFE-AFAFRICA shall define the following based on USSTRATCOM, USEUCOM, and NATO requirements: generation requirements, generation ground rules, generation rates, residual resources, deployment procedures, alert generation procedures, operations, alert procedures, weather impacts, alert maintenance, operation plan launch, forward operation location, BUGGY RIDE, survival launch, positive control and emergency launch options, takeoff to departure point, turnaround times, dispersal, air refueling planning, reconnaissance reserve forces, aircraft regeneration, launch and mission decision checklists, takeoff and abort procedures, en route aborts, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

**7.6. Combat Mission Folder.** The combat mission folder contains materials to be used by the aircrew in pre-mission preparation/study and during mission execution. It includes the materials contained in the Mission Preparation section and the Combat Mission section. The combat mission folder office of primary responsibility has a responsibility to standardized procedures within the unit to issue and account for combat mission folder materials, and, in addition, ensure they are properly classified, marked, and safeguarded in accordance with the appropriate security classification level. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions and supplements to this AFI.

**7.7. Planning.** USAFE-AFAFRICA shall define takeoff criteria, weather factors, airspeeds, refueling, altitude planning factors, probability of survival factors, aircraft loading and mission planning summary, basic weight considerations, mission planning factors, minimum runway, ground rules for computer-generated data, and other information, as appropriate. Details on these topics may be found in MAJCOM instructions, MAJCOM supplements to this AFI, combat mission folders, quick reaction binders, mission deployment folders, and mission planning documents.

## Chapter 8

### NUCLEAR PUBLICATIONS

**8.1. Major Command Nuclear Operations Publications.** Major Command nuclear operations instructions shall, at a minimum, include applicable procedures addressing the topics listed below. Major Commands will be the approving authority for unit-level supplements, and will coordinate supplements to this instruction with AF/A10 before publication. Forward one copy of restricted access or classified supplements to AF/A10C after publication.

- 8.1.1. Pre-departure and departure.
- 8.1.2. Alert and operations.
- 8.1.3. Training and evaluation.
- 8.1.4. Combat Mission Folders, to include general preparation, rules, security, and minimum mission contents.
- 8.1.5. Emergencies, contingencies, and incidents.
- 8.1.6. Aircraft generation, to include weapons acceptance.
- 8.1.7. ICBM generation and targeting.
- 8.1.8. Weapons, to include: restrictions, retention, emergency disposition, and Permissive Action Link.
- 8.1.9. Emergency War Order rules, to include: launch, en route timing, weapons delivery, and recovery.
- 8.1.10. Standard Combat Operating Procedures, to include: launch, en route timing, and recovery.
- 8.1.11. Air refueling.
- 8.1.12. Command and control, to include Emergency Action Procedures.
- 8.1.13. Reconnaissance in support of nuclear operations tasking, collection, processing exploitation, and dissemination.
- 8.1.14. Recovery and regeneration procedures.
- 8.1.15. Bomber Strategic Aircraft Regeneration Team / Tanker Strategic Aircraft Regeneration Team / Reconnaissance Support Team Reserve / Reconnaissance Support Team / Dual Capable Aircraft Regeneration Team.
- 8.1.16. Forward Located Alert Generation/Forward Operating Location/ Forward Located Alert Reconstitution.
- 8.1.17. Operations scheduling and exercises.
- 8.1.18. Operational Testing and Evaluation programs.
- 8.1.19. ICBM Missile Alert Facility management.
- 8.1.20. Additional operational limits and restrictions.

## Chapter 9

### NUCLEAR-CAPABLE UNIT CERTIFICATION, DECERTIFICATION, AND RESTRICTION PROGRAM

**9.1. Purpose.** This chapter codifies the process to inform, facilitate, and document Air Force decisions with regard to operational nuclear certification (initial and recertification), decertification, and restrictions of Air Force nuclear-capable units.

**9.2. Roles and Responsibilities.**

9.2.1. Deputy Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10) will:

9.2.1.1. Publish certification and restriction guidance for organizations and units.

9.2.1.2. Support the Secretary of the Air Force, Inspector General (SAF/IG) in developing the list of nuclear-capable units as is required under CJCSI 3263.05C, *Nuclear Weapons Technical Inspections*.

9.2.1.3. Communicate with Joint Staff and the respective Combatant Command on situations affecting operational certification, decertification, recertification, and restrictions of nuclear-capable units.

9.2.2. Major Command Commanders will:

9.2.2.1. Develop procedures to certify, decertify, recertify, and operationally restrict/un-restrict nuclear-capable units.

9.2.2.2. Use the results of Initial Nuclear Surety Inspections as a basis for operational certification. Nuclear Surety Inspections are conducted as described in CJCSI 3263.05C and AFI 90-201, *The Air Force Inspection System*.

9.2.2.3. Certify, decertify, restrict, or recertify nuclear-capable units in writing. This authority to certify, decertify, or recertify cannot be delegated. The commander may delegate authority to place and remove operational restrictions on units to the Wing Commander.

9.2.2.4. Notify AF/A10 and all other applicable agencies of decisions regarding certification, decertification, recertification, and operational restrictions of a nuclear-capable unit.

**9.3. Operational Nuclear Certification.** The operational certification of a unit is required prior to deeming a unit nuclear-capable. Operational certification will be conducted in accordance with AFI 63-125, *Nuclear Certification Program*.

**9.4. Decertification.** Decertifying a nuclear-capable unit removes all of the unit's authorization to employ, assemble, maintain, transport, or store war reserve nuclear weapons, associated components, and certified support equipment. The MAJCOM Commander is responsible for ensuring the safety and security of all nuclear assets during the interim period between decertification and recertification, and will develop and implement mitigation measures that ensure safe, secure, and effective war reserve assets. Decertification may result from one or more of the following:

9.4.1. When a unit receives an overall "Unacceptable" rating during a nuclear weapons technical inspection (e.g. Nuclear Surety Inspection).

9.4.1.1. The Service will determine whether the unit shall be decertified or have its certification temporarily withheld or continue operations with interim measures.

9.4.2. Accident(s)/incident(s) that directly or indirectly affect the safety, security, effectiveness, or control of nuclear weapons.

9.4.3. The unit's inability to comply with requirements in DoD Nuclear Weapons System Surety Standards and/or the appropriate AFI 91-11X Weapon System Safety Rules.

9.4.3.1. Weapon System Safety Rules and DoDD 3150.02, *DoD Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*, prescribe requirements to uphold the four DoD nuclear weapons surety standards. Compliance is measured by the nuclear weapons technical inspection process in concert with internal evaluation and assessment programs.

9.4.4. Commander's assessment results in lack of confidence in unit's operational capability.

9.4.4.1. A commander's assessment may be developed through internal programs (i.e. Quality Assurance, Exercise Evaluation Team, etc.) to evaluate and assess personnel proficiency, operational compliance, and equipment reliability, among other nuclear mission related areas. If a trend or gap is identified that affects the unit's ability to execute safe, secure, and effective operations, the Commander with concurrence from senior leadership, can make the determination to decertify the unit.

9.4.5. Failure to adhere to CJCSI 3263.05C inspection timelines.

9.4.5.1. If a unit does not meet the required certification inspection frequency, and a waiver has not been granted, the unit will be decertified.

**9.5. Operational Restrictions.** Operational restrictions remove the unit's authority to perform specific actions directly related to safe, secure, and reliable operations involving nuclear weapons. Operational restrictions restrict specific actions, but do not decertify the nuclear-capable unit.

JACK WEINSTEIN, Lt Gen, USAF  
DCS, Strategic Deterrence & Nuclear Integration

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

ACO Directive 80-6, *Nuclear Surety Management for the WS3*, 9 Dec 2015

DoDD 3150.02, *DoD Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*, 24 April 2013, Incorporating Change 3, 24 September 2017

DoDM S-5210.41\_AFMAN 31-108, *(U) Nuclear Weapon Security Manual*, 15 Jun 2017

DoDI 5160.70, *Management of DOD Language and Regional Proficiency Capabilities*, 30 Dec 2016

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CJCSI 3110.04B, *Nuclear Supplement to the JSCP for FY2004*, 4 Oct 2004

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AFMD 4, *Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC)*, 13 Jul 2017

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AFPD 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*, 17 Jul 2018

AFPD 10-9, *Lead Command Designation and Responsibilities for Weapon Systems*, 8 Mar 2007

AFPD 10-21, *Air Mobility Lead Command Roles and Responsibilities*, 30 Apr 2014

AFPD 63-1, *Integrated Life Cycle Management*, 03 June 2016

AFI 10-204, *Participation in Joint and National Exercises*, 27 Mar 2015

AFI 10-206, *Operational Reporting*, 11 Jun 2014

AFI 13-526 Volume 1, *Prime Nuclear Air-lift Force Operations*, 30 Aug 2016

AFI 13-550, *Air Force Nuclear Command, Control and Communications (NC3)*, 2 Oct 2014

AFI 16-1404, *Air Force Information Security Program*, 29 May 2015

AFI 31-101, *Integrated Defense*, 5 Jul 2017

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AFI 91-112, *Safety Rules for US/NATO Strike Fighters*, 1 Apr 2015

AFI 91-114, *Safety Rules for the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile System*, 30 Jun 2015

AFMCI 90-204, *Nuclear Materiel Management*, 4 May 2016

CJCS LERTCON Procedures, EUCOM Annex, 1 Oct 2015

USAFEI 13-520, *United States Air Forces in Europe Nuclear Operations*, 31 Jan 2013

*Emergency Action Procedures of the Commander, United States European Command (EAP-EUCOM)*, Volume I, 1 Nov 2015

EAP-STRAT V11, (S) *LERTCON System* (U), 1 Oct 2017

EAP-STRAT V12, (S) *Nuclear Operations Reporting* (U), 1 Oct 2017

*Emergency Action Procedures of the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff*, Volume IX Annex D, 1 Nov 2015

HAFMD 1-60, *Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration*, 22 Jun 2017

HAFMD 1-46, *Chief of Safety*, 10 Dec 2013

*National Defense Strategy of the United States of America, 2018*

*National Security Strategy of the United States of America*, Dec 2017

Strategic Command Instruction 501-14, (S) *Strategic Force Accounting Procedures* (U), 1 Dec 2013

TCG-WPMU-3, (S//RD) *Joint DOE/DoD Topical Classification Guide for Weapon Production and Military Use* (U), Dec 2013

United States Code, Title 10, Section 8040, *Oversight of Nuclear Deterrence Mission*, Jan 2016

### ***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, 22 Sep 2009

### ***Prescribed Forms***

None

### ***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**ACC**—Air Combat Command

**ACO**—Allied Command Operations

**AETC**—Air Education and Training Command

**AF**—Air Force

**AFGSC**—Air Force Global Strike Command

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual

**AFMC**—Air Force Materiel Command

**AFMD**—Air Force Mission Directive

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**AFSPC**—Air Force Space Command

**AMC**—Air Mobility Command

**CJCSI**—Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DoDM**—Department of Defense Manual

**DoDI**—Department of Defense Instruction

**DoDD**—Department of Defense Directive

**EAP STRAT**—STRATCOM Emergency Action Procedures

**HAF**—Headquarters Air Force

**ICBM**—Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**MD**—Mission Directive

**NATO**—North Atlantic Treaty Organization

**NC2**—Nuclear Command and Control

**NC3**—Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications

**PACAF**—Pacific Air Forces

**SHAPE/NATO**—Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe/ North Atlantic Treaty Organization

**SI**—Strategic Command Instruction

**USAFE-AFAFRICA**—United States Air Forces Europe-United States Air Forces Africa

**USAFEI**—United States Air Forces Europe Instruction

**USC**—United States Code

**USEUCOM**—United States European Command

**USSTRATCOM**—United States Strategic Command

**USTRANSCOM**—United States Transportation Command

### *Terms*

**Adaptive Planning**—Process of modifying existing plans to meet emerging situations.

**Airborne Launch Control System (ALCS)**—The Airborne Launch Control System provides a survivable Command and Control capability for launch of Minuteman III ICBMs. The Airborne

Launch Control System is capable of injecting preparatory launch, enable, and execute launch commands directly to the launch facility/ies to achieve launch. It also has the ability to inject inhibit launch commands to prevent an unauthorized launch. The ALCS should not be confused with the US Navy E-6B Mercury Strategic Command Airborne Command Post aircraft that the system is hosted on. The US Navy E-6B also serves as a communication relay for emergency action messages.

**Codes**—Codes provide positive control and nuclear surety for the Minuteman III weapon system and Airborne Launch Control System. Codes protect information used to target, enable, and launch an ICBM. This includes the encryption/decryption of critical status communications between the Launch Control Centers and launch facilities, and supports the secondary execution capability of the Airborne Launch Control System. All functions use National Security Administration-produced crypto-variables controlled through both environment design and procedural safeguards to ensure no lone individual can gain access to a complete squadron launch or enable code.

**Contingency**—A situation requiring military operations in response to natural disasters, terrorists, subversives, or as otherwise directed by appropriate authority to protect US interests.

**Deliberate Planning**—Process involving the development of joint operation plans for contingencies identified in joint strategic planning documents.

**Dual Capable**—References aircraft capable of performing both conventional and nuclear missions. At the time of publication, this includes aircraft such as the nuclear-capable fighters (e.g., F-15E, and F-16) and bombers (e.g., B-2, and B-52). References to fighters or bombers is informed by context.

**Initial Nuclear Surety Inspection (INSI)**—An inspection to evaluate a unit's readiness to assume or resume a nuclear mission, or to evaluate and certify new or significantly modified maintenance and storage facilities, or significant changes to weapons systems or portions thereof.

**Mission Design Series**—System by which military aerospace vehicles are identified in accordance with DOD 4120.15-L, *Model Designation of Military Aerospace Vehicles*.

**Nuclear-Capable Unit**—A unit or an activity assigned responsibilities for employing, assembling, maintaining, transporting, or storing war reserve nuclear weapons, their associated components, and ancillary equipment.

**Nuclear Certification**—A determination by the Air Force that procedures, software, equipment, and facilities are sufficient to perform nuclear weapon functions, and personnel and organizations are capable of performing assigned nuclear missions. Nuclear Certification evaluates and documents compliance with the "Positive Measures" required by the DoD Nuclear Weapon System Safety Standards that is required before the nuclear weapon system or item of equipment can be used with war reserve weapons. Compliance is mandated by DoD Directive and Manual 3150.2, and implemented by AFI 63-125, *Nuclear Certification Program*.

**Nuclear Misison**—The people, organizations, processes, procedures, infrastructure, and systems that are used to conduct, execute, and support nuclear forces and operations.

**Nuclear Operations Tasking**—A clearly defined nuclear action or activity specifically assigned to an organization that must be done is it is imposed buy an appropriate authority.



**Nuclear Staff Assistance Visit**—A visit from higher headquarters personnel usually to review subordinate unit processes and procedures to evaluate and improve programs and overall combat readiness.

**Nuclear Surety Inspection**—A compliance-based inspection conducted to evaluate a unit's ability to manage nuclear resources while complying with nuclear surety standards.

**Office of Primary Responsibility**—Any agency or activity having the primary functional interest in, and responsibility for, a specific action, project, plan, program, or problem.

**Operational Control**—The authority to perform those functions of command over subordinate forces involving organizing and employing commands and forces, assigning tasks, designating objectives, and giving authoritative direction necessary to accomplish the mission. Operational control is able to be delegated from a lesser authority than Combatant Command (command authority). Operational Control does not include authoritative direction for logistics or matters of administration, discipline, internal organization, or unit training. For example, Operational Control does not include the authority to change the Service's internal organization of its forces.

**Operational Test and Evaluation**—Testing and evaluation conducted in as realistic an operational environment as possible to estimate the prospective system's operational effectiveness, suitability, and operational capabilities. In addition, Operational Test and Evaluation provides information on organization, personnel requirements, doctrine, and tactics. It may also provide data to support or verify material in operating instructions, publications, and handbooks.

**Operation Plan**—Any complete and detailed plan for the conduct of military operations prepared in response to actual and potential contingencies, which contains a full description of the concept of operations, all annexes applicable to the plan, and time-phased force and deployment data. Operation Plans are prepared by Combatant Commanders in response to requirements communicated to them by the Commander, Joint Chiefs of Staff and by commanders of subordinate commands in response to requirements tasked by the establishing unified commander.

**Special Nuclear Material**—Defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 as plutonium, U-233, or uranium enriched in the isotopes of U-233 or U-235.

**Unit**—For the purposes of this Instruction, a “unit” is defined as a squadron, group, or wing.