SUBJECT: Combat Support Agencies

References: (a) Sections 101, 192, and 193 of title 10, United States Code  
(b) Joint Publication 1-02, “Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms,” as amended  
(c) Joint Publication 0-2, “Unified Action of the Armed Forces (UNAAF),” July 10, 2001  
(d) DoD Directive 5143.01, “Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)),” November 23, 2005  
(e) through (g), see Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE

This Directive establishes DoD policy and responsibilities under section 193 of Reference (a) for Combat Support Agencies (CSAs). This Directive shall be interpreted consistent with the law and DoD directives and policy, including such policy pertaining to the Director of National Intelligence.

2. APPLICABILITY

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

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Defense Agency and DoD Field Activity are defined in section 101 of Reference (a).

3.2. Other terms used in this Directive are found in Reference (b).
4. POLICY

It is DoD policy that:

4.1. CSAs designated under section 193 of Reference (a) fulfill combat support or combat service support functions for joint operating forces across the range of military operations, and in support of combatant commanders executing military operations. CSAs perform support functions or provide supporting operational capabilities, consistent with their establishing directives and pertinent DoD planning guidance.

4.2. The combat support mission of a CSA is that portion of its mission involving support for operating forces engaged in planning for, or conducting, military operations, including support during conflict or in the conduct of other military activities related to countering threats to U.S. national security. This mission is focused on providing support to echelons at the COCOM level and below and may not encompass the full scope of the CSA’s mission.

4.3. A CSA shall provide, and plan for, the optimum support capabilities attainable within existing and programmed resources to the operational commanders, within the parameters of the CSA’s statutory responsibilities and its chartering DoD Directive. CSAs shall interpret government and departmental regulations to facilitate the execution of their combat support or combat service support mission. For these purposes, CSAs shall participate fully in the Joint Strategic Planning System and the Joint Operation Planning and Execution System to define current joint warfighting capability needs and shall utilize the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) to define and validate future joint warfighting capability needs.

4.4. The relationship between a CSA and a COCOM is support, as defined in Joint Publication 0-2 (Reference (c)), with the CSA typically operating in a supporting-to-supported relationship relative to the combatant commanders. The Director of a CSA exercises the authority and bears responsibilities equivalent to those of a supporting commander. A commander of a COCOM may modify the support relationship to that of direct support to a subordinate unit within the COCOM. The commander of a COCOM may also give authoritative direction regarding the combatant commander’s requirements to CSAs supporting the combatant commander’s military operations.

4.4.1. Absent modifying direction from the Secretary of Defense, the combatant commander exercises authority, direction, and control over the performance of duties of the CSA elements supporting operations - to include tactical control for force protection over all CSA elements (except DoD personnel for whom the chiefs of U.S. diplomatic missions have security responsibilities by law or interagency agreement) - within the combatant commander’s area of responsibility.

4.4.2. A CSA Director shall retain the supporting relationship with all the COCOMs, even if the CSA Director (or a senior military officer within the CSA) is also serving as an additional duty as a commander of a Joint Force for a designated COCOM.
5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The OSD Principal Staff Assistants (PSAs) exercise authority, direction, and control over designated Defense Agencies and DoD Field Activities as designated by the Secretary of Defense and are accountable to the Secretary of Defense for the mission performance of such agencies and activities. This includes accountability for CSA(s) in the CSA’s preparation for, and execution of, combat support missions in support of operational forces. For this purpose, PSAs shall:

5.1.1. Ensure the CSA possesses the requisite capability necessary to meet the warfighting needs of the combatant commanders and is prepared, trained, and resourced to execute, on a priority basis, the agency’s combat support mission. The PSA shall ensure the CSA Directors correct readiness shortfalls identified by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the combatant commanders, consistent with section 193 of Reference (a).

5.1.2. Consult with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with regard to CSA joint warfighting requirements, programming levels, priorities, capabilities, joint training exercise participation, readiness reporting, and their overall readiness to perform current and future CSA missions.

5.1.3. Consult with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and recommend to the Secretary of Defense priorities for CSA support when overall requirements in support of military operations exceed a CSA’s capability to provide adequate support. The PSA shall also recommend to the Secretary of Defense additional departmental assets to mitigate the shortfalls and make arrangements for their use, as appropriate.

5.1.4. In coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serve as the Secretary of Defense’s representative to non-DoD elements in any negotiations concerning readiness shortfalls and possible remedial steps.

5.2. The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, in accordance with DoD Directive 5143.01 (Reference (d)) shall, in addition to those responsibilities in paragraph 5.1:

5.2.1. Establish policies and procedures with respect to the combat support functions performed by those Defense Intelligence agencies which are designated as CSAs in support of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff requirements mandated in section 193 of Reference (a).

5.2.2. Develop and implement policies and programs to correct deficiencies identified by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other Defense officials for those Defense Intelligence agencies which are designated as CSAs to accomplish assigned mission support of military combat operations.

5.3 The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:
5.3.1. Oversee the planning and execution of each CSA’s combat support mission and shall:

5.3.1.1. Submit a report to the Secretary of Defense at least every 2 years on the responsiveness and readiness of each CSA.

5.3.1.2. Provide for the participation of each CSA in joint training events and exercises. Assess the CSAs’ performance in such activities, and take steps to provide for changes to improve the CSA’s performance.

5.3.1.3. Develop and maintain a uniform readiness reporting system for each CSA in consultation with the Director of that CSA.

5.3.2. Provide military advice and planning guidance to the CSAs and the combatant commanders in the preparation of their operational plans, and provide for full participation by the CSAs in the joint lessons learned and operational after-action review processes.

5.3.3. Provide military advice on the allocation of a CSA’s capabilities across COCOMs to the Secretary of Defense and the Director of the CSA should overall requirements in support of military operations exceed its capacity.

5.3.4. Advise the Secretary of Defense on the extent to which program recommendations and budget proposals of the CSAs for a fiscal year conform with the priorities established in strategic plans and the priorities established for the requirements of the Military Departments and COCOMs. The Chairman shall submit to the Secretary of Defense, when the Chairman deems it necessary, alternative CSA program recommendations and budget proposals to achieve greater conformity with the priorities established in strategic plans and the priorities for the requirements of the commanders of the COCOMs.

5.4. Combatant Commanders shall:

5.4.1. Ensure that the COCOM and subordinate command plans adequately specify CSA missions and tasks and establish appropriate relationships for the CSAs supporting operations within his area of responsibility; or over which they exercise tactical control for force protection. Each combatant commander shall provide planning and operational guidance to the CSAs and ensure that requirements for CSA support are adequately identified in requests for capabilities.

5.4.2. Provide the Secretary of Defense, through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the operational impact and risk assessment of any CSA capability shortfalls should mission requirements exceed a CSA’s ability to provide needed support in the absence of acceptable and readily available alternative solutions.

5.4.3. Provide for the participation of CSAs in combatant command joint training events and exercises; assess the performance of agency command-linked tasks; and provide feedback to the CSA Director through joint after-action reports.

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5.4.4. Assess the relationship between the Combatant Command and the supporting CSAs while planning for military operations and request from the Secretary of Defense through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff any modification required to carry out assigned missions.

5.5. The Secretary of the Military Departments shall consult with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on matters pertaining to CSAs as prescribed in section 193 of Reference (a).

5.6. Each Director of a Combat Support Agency shall:

5.6.1. Exercise the authority and fulfill the responsibilities of a supporting agency to combatant commanders planning or executing military operations, consistent with the CSA’s established functions and responsibilities. Each CSA Director shall establish liaison with the combatant commander to facilitate integration with COCOM planning and execution, as required, relative to the CSA’s combat support mission.

5.6.2. Prepare for and execute the CSA’s combat support mission and fully participate in the development and review of operational plans through participation in the planning processes led by combatant commanders, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The Director shall prepare and maintain internal operational plans to ensure the preparation for and execution of the agency’s combat support mission and shall, when tasked by a supported commander, prepare such supporting plans as necessary.

5.6.3. Deploy agency capability, including personnel and equipment, into a combatant commander’s area of responsibility, in response to validated combatant command requests for support and deployment authorization by the Secretary of Defense.

5.6.3.1. Each Director shall establish and resource sufficient emergency essential positions in accordance with DoD Directive 1404.10 (Reference (e)) to support the requirements for agency personnel to deploy into a theater of operations and shall ensure that these personnel are properly trained and prepared.

5.6.3.2. Each Director utilizing contractors to support or execute their combat support mission shall ensure that these contracts and contractors meet the requirements of DoD Instruction 3020.37 (Reference (f)) and shall ensure that these personnel

5.6.3.2.1. Are properly prepared to deploy into a theater of operations; and

5.6.3.2.2. Are properly trained and prepared to meet the mission and theater requirements.

5.6.3.3. Each Director shall establish within the agency’s deployed elements a command and control structure that facilitates mission accomplishment while conforming to the operational direction of the supported commander.
5.6.4. Plan, program, and budget sufficient resources to ensure the agency possesses the capability and is ready to execute its combat support mission. The Director shall provide through the cognizant OSD PSA to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the agency program recommendations and budget proposals for review.

5.6.5. Participate fully in the Defense Readiness Reporting System (DRRS), the Chairman’s Readiness System (CRS), and other operational and risk assessments.

5.6.6. Establish and conduct military and joint training programs to assure the capability to execute their respective combat support missions. Pursuant to DoD Directive 1322.18 (Reference (g)), CSAs shall participate fully in the Joint Training System and shall take part in joint training events and joint exercises sponsored by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the combatant commanders.

5.6.7. Participate fully in the JCIDS processes to define and validate future combat support capability needs with the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC). Directors should take action under the JCIDS to meet unprogrammed combat support needs. Each CSA Director shall, upon the request of the JROC, accept sponsorship of joint capabilities that fall within the scope of the agency’s established functions and responsibilities.

5.6.8. Inform the supervising PSA, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the appropriate combatant commanders immediately in writing of any capability shortfall, its impact on the agency’s ability to provide required combat support for operating forces, and recommendations to resolve or mitigate the shortfall.

5.6.9. Inform the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the agency’s inability to execute all or part of a specified combat support mission and of any significant change in the CSA’s readiness posture, in part through participation in the DRRS and the CRS.

6. RELEASABILITY. UNLIMITED. This Directive is approved for public release and is available on the Internet from the DoD Issuances Website at http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives.

67. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

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Enclosures - 2
E1. References, continued
E2. Current Combat Support Agencies
E1. ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES, continued

(f) DoD Instruction 3020.37, “Continuation of Essential DoD Contractor Services During Crises,” November 6, 1990
E2. ENCLOSURE 2

CURRENT COMBAT SUPPORT AGENCIES

E2.1. The following agencies are designated CSAs by section 193(f) of Reference (a):


E2.1.2. Defense Logistics Agency.

E2.1.3. Defense Intelligence Agency.


E2.2. The following agencies are designated CSAs by the Secretary of Defense under the Secretary’s authority in section 193(f) of Reference (a):


E2.2.2. Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

E2.3. National Security Agency/Central Security Service is designated a CSA consistent with section 193(d) of Reference (a) with respect to those combat support activities it performs for the Department of Defense.

E2.4. DoD Counterintelligence Field Activity as specified in DoD Directive 5105.67 (Reference (e)).

E2.5. In accordance with section 192 of Reference (a) and as designated by the Secretary of Defense in the applicable DoD Directives, the following civilian officers within the Office of the Secretary of Defense exercise authority, direction, control, and supervision over the CSAs indicated:


E2.5 E2.4.2. The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence is the PSA for the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Agency/Central Security Service, and the Counterintelligence Field Activity.

E2.5 E2.4.3. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration is the PSA for the Defense Information Systems Agency.