



# Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 1235.10

July 1, 1995

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ASD(RA)

SUBJECT: Activation, Mobilization, and Demobilization of the Ready Reserve

- References: (a) DoD Directive 1235.10, "Mobilization of the Ready Reserve," October 24, 1986 (hereby canceled)
- (b) Title 10, United States Code
  - (c) Title 14, United States Code
  - (d) [DoD Directive 1235.9](#), "Management and Mobilization of the Standby Reserve," July 8, 1986
  - (e) through (k), see enclosure 1

## 1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive:

- 1.1. Reissues reference (a).
- 1.2. Implements those provisions of law that pertain to the order of units and individual members of the Reserve components to active duty in support of operational missions, contingency operations, during a national emergency, or in time of war.
- 1.3. Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for:
  - 1.3.1. The ordering to active duty, and the managing of the Reserve components, during periods when members of the Reserve components serve on active duty under Section 12301(a) (formerly 672(a)), 12301(b) (formerly 672(b)), 12302 (formerly 673), or 12304 (formerly 673(b)) of reference (b).
  - 1.3.2. The ordering to active duty of Reserve component volunteers under Section 12301(d) (formerly 672(d)) of reference (b) in support of operational missions

in major domestic emergencies, contingency operations, during a national emergency, or in time of war.

1.3.3. The pre-mobilization and post-mobilization preparation of Reserve component forces in support of operational missions, contingency operations, a national emergency, or in time of war.

1.3.4. Planning and executing the mobilization and demobilization of Reserve component units and members serving on active duty in support of operational missions, contingency operations, during periods of national emergencies, or in time of war.

## 2. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This Directive:

2.1. Applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments (including the Coast Guard, by agreement with the Department of Transportation, when it is not operating as a Service in the Department of the Navy), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Unified Combatant Commands, and the Defense Agencies.

2.2. Applies to the ordering to active duty of all categories of Reservists, without the consent of the persons affected, under Section 12301(a), 12301(b), or 12302 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (b)).

2.3. Applies to the ordering of members of the Selected Reserve to active duty, without the consent of the members affected, under Section 12304 of reference (b), except as restricted by subparagraph (b) of Section 12304 of reference (b).

2.4. Applies to the ordering to active duty, without the consent of the persons affected, units and individual members of the Ready Reserve under any provision of law.

2.5. Applies to the call of the National Guard into Federal service in accordance with Section 12406 (formerly Sections 3500 and 8500 of Chapter 15) of reference (b).

2.6. Does not apply to the ordering to active duty of Coast Guard Reservists by the Secretary of Transportation for emergency augmentation regular Coast Guard forces during a serious natural or manmade disaster, accident, or catastrophe under

Section 712 of 14 U.S.C. (reference (c)).

### 3. DEFINITIONS

Terms used in this Directive are defined in enclosure 2.

### 4. POLICY

4.1. For major regional conflicts and national emergencies, access to the Reserve components units and individuals through an order to active duty without their consent will be assumed. For lesser regional conflicts, domestic emergencies, and other missions, where capabilities of the Reserve components could be required, maximum consideration will be given to accessing volunteer Reserve components units and individuals before seeking authority to order members of the Reserve components to active duty without their consent.

4.2. For purposes of complying with this Directive, a unit is any identified and managed group or detachment of one or more individuals, organized to perform a particular function whether or not such a group is part of a larger group.

4.3. The following shall apply on the activation and mobilization of the Reserve components:

4.3.1. Volunteers. Secretaries of the Military Departments are authorized, under Section 12301(d) of reference (b), to employ units or individuals from the Ready Reserve to meet any military requirement covered by this Directive, subject to the following limitations:

4.3.1.1. Members of the Army and Air National Guard of the United States may not be ordered to active duty as volunteers without the consent of the Governor or appropriate authority of the State, Territory, Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, whichever is concerned.

4.3.1.2. Readiness. Volunteers from Reserve component units shall not be used in numbers that would degrade the readiness standards of their parent Reserve units below the levels required to meet assigned requirements of the Commanders of the Unified Combatant Commands unless the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff determines that the unit will not be required as a unit for subsequent deployment to other potential crises.

4.3.1.3. Numerical and Time Limits. The limitations of Sections 12302 and 12304 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (b)), either in numbers or period of service, do not apply to individuals or units volunteering for active duty under Section 12301(d) of reference (b).

4.3.2. Order to Active Duty Without Consent of the Members Involved. In time of national emergency declared by the Congress or the President or when otherwise authorized by law under Section 12301(a) or 12302 of reference (b), or when the President authorizes the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Transportation to augment the active force for any operational mission under Section 12304 of reference (b), the Secretaries of the Military Departments may order members of the Reserve component to active duty, without the consent of the members concerned, subject to the following limitations:

4.3.2.1. Periods of Service. The Secretary of Defense shall establish, within authorized time limits imposed by statute, specific periods of active duty for members of the Reserve components. At the direction of the Secretary, members of the Reserve components ordered to active duty may be released from active duty before completion of the period of service specified by their orders. They remain subject, however, to being ordered back to active duty without their consent to complete the period originally specified and all authorized extensions. Periods of service shall be measured from the date the member enters on active duty as specified in the order to active duty. Members of the Reserve components activated under Section 12304 or 12302 of reference (b) may subsequently be ordered to active duty under Section 12302 or 12301(a) of reference (b), respectively, during or following the period to which initially activated. They may be ordered to active duty for the full period authorized by succeeding statutes, or for a lesser period as specified by the Secretary of Defense. At the discretion of the Secretary of Defense, time served by Reserve component units and members under Sections 12301(a), 12302, and 12304 of reference (b) may be credited to that period for those members who are ordered to active duty under succeeding statutes.

4.3.2.2. Unit Considerations. Members of the Reserve components ordered to active duty to augment the Active forces are Active Federal forces and are interchangeable with the Active component for any operational commitment. In accordance with Section 12301(c) (formerly 672(c)) of 10 U.S.C. (reference (b)), members of units organized and trained to serve as units shall, so far as practicable, be ordered to active duty with their units.

4.3.2.3. Manpower Computations. The Secretary of Defense shall, upon the advice of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and within authorized totals prescribed under Sections 12302 and 12304 of reference (b), determine specific limitations on the number of Reserve members ordered to active duty by the Secretaries of the Military Departments concerned, and with respect to the Coast Guard, when it is not operating as a Service in the Department of the Navy, the Secretary of Transportation. Members of the Selected Reserve, including Individual Mobilization Augmentees, ordered to active duty under Section 12304 of reference (b) and members of the Ready Reserve ordered to active duty under Section 12301(a) or 12302 of reference (b) shall not be counted when computing the authorized end strength for members on active duty.

4.3.2.4. Resource Allocation. The Selected Reserve shall receive priority for allocation of personnel, training, and equipment over all other Reserve component categories. Early deploying units and individuals will have priority over later deploying units.

4.4. The following shall apply on the demobilization of the Reserve components:

4.4.1. Release. Members of the Ready Reserve ordered to active duty without their consent shall be retained on active duty no longer than absolutely necessary. They shall receive priority for redeployment from the area of operations over Active component units, and be released from active duty as expeditiously as possible, consistent with operational requirements. To the maximum extent possible, consistent with operational requirements, members who are medically cleared, who are ordered to active duty with a unit, should be released with that unit. Units ordered to active duty as a unit should be released as a unit, so far as practicable.

4.4.2. Follow-on Missions. To the extent possible and insofar as practicable, missions following demobilization shall be accomplished by Active component forces, augmented by DoD civilian employees or contract personnel, and qualified volunteers from the Reserve components.

4.5. Additional policies and procedures governing the activation of the Standby Reserve and the Retired Reserve are in DoD Directives 1235.9 and 1352.1 (references (d) and (e)).

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense with specific responsibility for exercising overall supervision of Reserve component matters in the Department of Defense, shall provide policy, programs, and guidance for the activation, mobilization, and demobilization of the Reserve components during periods of national emergency, or in time of war, in accordance with DoD 3020.36-P and DoD Directive 5125.1 (references (f) and (g)).

5.2. The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, working through the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy and Requirements, is responsible for policies concerning the relative roles of all elements of the Total Force in implementing national strategy and advises the Secretary of Defense on national security strategy and defense strategy, as well as resources, forces, and contingency plans necessary to implement that strategy, in accordance with DoD Directive 5111.1 (reference (h)).

5.3. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence shall, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (ASD(RA)), prescribe policy, programs, and guidance concerning command, control, communications, and intelligence matters related to the Ready Reserve, in accordance with DoD Directive 5137.1 (reference (i)).

5.4. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, under the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, shall, in coordination with the ASD(RA), prescribe policy, programs, and guidance concerning Reserve component Special Operations Forces and low-intensity conflicts insofar as they affect Reserve forces, in accordance with DoD Directive 5111.10 (reference (j)).

5.5. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs shall ensure a free flow of information to the news media, other appropriate forums, and the public about activating, mobilizing, and demobilizing Reserve forces, subject to security constraints, in accordance with DoD 3020.36-P (reference (f)).

5.6. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs shall provide, as required by Subsection (f) of Section 12304 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (b)), specific information on activation, mobilization, and demobilization matters to the appropriate congressional committees.

5.7. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:

5.7.1. Advise the Secretary of Defense, after coordination with ASD(RA),

the Secretaries of the Military Departments, and the Commanders of the Unified Combatant Commands, on the need to augment the Active forces with members of the Reserve components to include a time-phased requirement recommendation for all Reserve forces needed to support operational missions.

5.7.2. Recommend to the Secretary of Defense, consistent with the policies, procedures, and limitations established by the Secretary of Defense, the period of service for units and members of the Reserve components ordered to active duty.

5.7.3. Report to the Secretary of Defense the anticipated use of units and members of the Reserve components ordered to active duty, in coordination with the Secretaries of the Military Departments.

5.7.4. Recommend to the Secretary of Defense that, when members of the Armed Forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing military force, the Secretary of Defense designate the operation as a contingency operation.

5.8. The Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Commandant of the Coast Guard, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Transportation when the Coast Guard is not operating as a Service of the Department of the Navy, shall:

5.8.1. Prepare activation, mobilization, and demobilization plans, to include transition and release plans, in accordance with this Directive and any supplemental guidance recommended by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Periodically review and test these plans to ensure that a capability exists to mobilize Reserve forces and to assimilate them effectively into the Active force.

5.8.2. Establish and maintain unit deployment designators for all Reserve component units that formally link time-phased activation and deployment requirements to claims on resourcing priorities, in accordance with Section 1135 of Public Law 102-484 (reference (k)), as applicable to the Secretary of the Army. Ensure the existence of systematic procedures for alerting and ordering members of the Reserve components to active duty and for providing the necessary resources.

5.8.3. Plan for both the activation of entire Reserve units and the activation of selected functional capabilities of Reserve units as required. Develop procedures to enable the identification, activation, and management of teams or sub-units possessing required functional capabilities.

5.9. The Commanders of the Unified Combatant Commands shall ensure their

requirements for Reserve forces are fully coordinated with the Military Departments and shall advise the Military Services on required levels of Reserve readiness, training, and mobilization required to execute operational missions and contingency operations.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. White", is written over a horizontal line.

John P. White  
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures - 2

- E1. References, continued
- E2. Definitions

E1. ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES, continued

- (e) DoD Directive 1352. 1, "Management and Mobilization of Regular and Reserve Retired Military Members," March 2, 1990
- (f) DoD 3020.36-P, "Master Mobilization Plan," May 1988, authorized by DoD Directive 3020.36, November 2, 1988
- (g) [DoD Directive 5125.1](#), "Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (ASD (RA))," March 2, 1994
- (h) [DoD Directive 5111.1](#), "Under Secretary of Defense for Policy(USD(P))," March 22, 1995
- (i) [DoD Directive 5137. 1](#), "Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence (ASD(C3I))," February 12, 1992
- (j) [DoD Directive 5111. 10](#), "Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict (ASD (SO/LIC))," March 22, 1995
- (k) Public Law 102-484, "Title XI of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993," October 1, 1992

## E2. ENCLOSURE 2

### DEFINITIONS

E2.1.1. Activation. The ordering of units and individual members of the Reserve components to active duty under legislative authority granted to the President, Congress, or the Secretaries of the Military Departments.

E2.1.2. Active Duty. Full-time duty in the Active military service of the United States. For Reserve members, it includes all periods of service under Sections 12301(a), (b), or (d); 12302; and 12304 of 10 U.S.C.(reference (b)). It also refers to all periods of service for members of the retired Reserve under Section 688 of reference (b).

E2.1.3. Contingency Operation. A military operation that:

E2.1.3.1. Is designated by the Secretary of Defense as an operation in which members of the Armed Forces are or may become involved in military actions, operations, or hostilities against an enemy of the United States or against an opposing military force; or,

E2.1.3.2. Results in the call or order to, or retention on, active duty of members of the Uniformed Services under Sections 12301(a), 12302, 12304,12305, 12406, or 688 of Chapter 15 of reference (b), or any other provision of law during a war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress.

E2.1.4. Demobilization. The process necessary to release from active duty units and members of the Reserve components who were ordered to active duty under Section 12301(a), 12302, or 12304 of reference (b).

E2.1.5. Domestic Emergencies. Emergencies affecting the public welfare and occurring within the 50 States, District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. possessions and territories, or any political subdivision thereof, as a result of enemy attack, insurrection, civil disturbance, earthquake, fire, flood, or other public disaster or equivalent emergencies that endanger life and property or disrupt the Government.

E2.1.6. Mobilization. The process by which all or a portion of the Armed Forces are brought to a state of readiness for war or other emergencies. It includes the order to active duty of units and members of the Reserve components under a

declaration of national emergency by either the President or the Congress or when the Congress declares war. It includes the order to active duty of all or part of the Reserve components, as well as assembling and organizing personnel, supplies, and material. Mobilization of the Armed Forces includes but is not limited to the following categories:

E.2.1.6.1. Presidential Selected Reserve Call-up. Ordering any unit and any member not assigned to a unit organized to serve as a unit of the Selected Reserve to active duty (other than for training), for not more than 270 days, without consent of the members concerned, to augment the Active force for any operational mission other than during war or national emergency under Section 12304 of reference (b). Not more than 200,000 members of the Selected Reserve may be on active duty under this authority at any one time.

E2.1.6.2. Partial Mobilization. Activation by the President of not more than 1 million Ready Reservists for not more than 24 consecutive months, under Section 12302 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (b)), and the resources needed for their support to meet the requirements of a national emergency.

E2.1.6.3. Full Mobilization. Under Section 12301(a) of reference (b), activation, in time of war or national emergency declared by Congress, of all Reserve component units in the existing force structure; all individual, standby, and retired Reservists; retired Active force military personnel; and the resources needed for their support. Full mobilization is directed by Congress in those situations requiring the expansion of the Active force to meet the requirements of a war or other national emergency involving an external threat to national security. Units, individual Reservists, and retirees may be ordered to active duty for the period of the emergency plus 6 months thereafter.

E2.1.7. National Emergency. A condition declared by the President or the Congress by virtue of powers previously vested in them that authorize certain emergency actions to be undertaken in the national interest. Actions to be taken may include partial, full, or total mobilization of national resources.

E2.1.8. Operational Mission. Any military activity of the Armed Forces that is not exclusively for training.

E2.1.9. Ready Reserve. Consists of the Selected Reserve (IRR), and the Inactive National Guard (ING). Members of the Ready Reserve, organized in units or as individuals, are subject to being ordered to active duty without their consent to

augment the Active forces

E2.1.9.1. Selected Reserve. Those units and individuals within the Ready Reserve designated by their respective Services and approved by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of Defense or Secretary of Transportation, as appropriate, as so essential to initial wartime requirements that they have priority over all other Reserve elements. They are required to participate in inactive duty training periods and/or annual training. The Selected Reserve also includes Reserve members awaiting or performing initial active duty for training. The Selected Reserve consists of subcategories defined as follows:

E2.1.9.1.1. Selected Reserve Units. A unit is any group or detachment of one or more individuals organized to perform a particular function, whether or not such a group is part of a larger group, and that is organized, equipped, and trained to serve, upon activation or mobilization, on active duty as an operational or augmentation unit. Operational units train and normally serve as cohesive units, detachments, or crews. Augmentation units train together, but lose their unit identity when activated or mobilized, normally to augment and be subsumed by an Active unit or activity. Any unit may be ordered to active duty, if needed, regardless of size.

E2.1.9.1.2. Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMAs). Trained individuals of the Selected Reserve who are preassigned to an Active component, Defense Agency, Selective Service System, or Federal Emergency Agency organization billet that would be filled to meet contingency, pre-mobilization, mobilization, sustainment, or demobilization manpower requirements. IMAs may also be assigned to support the national defense strategy or national security objectives for critical military mission requirements or for special skills and/or qualifications needed to maintain selected military capabilities. IMAs participate in mandatory training activities on a part-time basis in preparation for activation or mobilization.

E2.1.9.2. Individual Ready Reserve (IRR). A manpower pool principally consisting of individuals who have had training and have previously served in the Active forces or in the Selected Reserve. It consists both of those who have not completed their Military Service Obligation (MSO) and those who have fulfilled their MSO. IRR members are subject to being ordered to active duty for training without their consent and fulfillment of mobilization requirements in accordance with Sections 12301 and 12302 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (b)). In addition, the IRR also includes some personnel who are participating in officer training programs or in the Armed Forces Health Scholarship Program.

E2.1.9.3. Inactive National Guard (ING). Consists of personnel of the Army National Guard Ready Reserve who are in an inactive status. The term is not applicable to the Air National Guard. ING members are assigned to National Guard units but do not participate in training activities. On partial or full mobilization (but not a call-up under Section 12304 of reference (b)), they mobilize with their unit of assignment.

E2.1.10. Reserve Components. Refers collectively to the Army National Guard of the United States, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air National Guard of the United States, Air Force Reserve, and Coast Guard Reserve.

E2.1.11. Unit. Any identified and managed group or detachment of one or more individuals, organized to perform a particular function whether or not such a group is part of a larger group.

E2.1.12. Unit Deployment Designators (UDD). An indicator specifying the post-mobilization training days allocated to a unit for deployment. The UDD is part of a congressionally mandated system to develop a priority for mobilization, based on regional contingency planning requirements and integrated into the war planning process.

E2.1.13. Volunteer. A member of the Reserve components who is ordered to active duty with his or her consent pursuant to Section 12301(d) of reference (b).

E2.1.14. Volunteer Unit. One or more individual volunteers, organized to perform a particular function whether or not such a unit is part of a larger group, who have consented to perform an active duty mission.