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# CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

J-3  
DISTRIBUTION: A, B

CJCSI 3431.01E  
26 November 2018

## JOINT NUCLEAR ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM

### References:

See Enclosure C

1. Purpose. This instruction outlines the functions of the Joint Nuclear Accident and Incident Response Team (JNAIRT), and establishes Department of Defense (DoD) responsibilities to ensure a joint 24-hour-a-day capability to meet the initial DoD time-sensitive management requirements for any accident or incident involving U.S. nuclear weapons in DoD or Department of Energy (DoE) custody, or involving a military reactor.

2. Superseded/Cancellation. CJCSI 3431.01D, 1 October 2013, is superseded.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), Joint Staff, Combatant Commands (CCMDs), Services, and Defense agencies.

### 4. Policy

a. Reference f directs the formation of the JNAIRT to assist in carrying out the Chairman's responsibilities for response to an accident or incident involving nuclear or radiological materials. Per reference g, all U.S. nuclear weapon incidents shall be considered to be the result of hostile acts until proven otherwise.

b. As a crisis organization, the JNAIRT will augment a formed Joint Staff Crisis Management Team (CMT), and follow CMT guidance in Enclosure B. This concept, or portions of it, may be used should the Department of State (DoS), Department of Justice (DoJ), or DoE request DoD assistance in handling an accident or incident involving nuclear weapons, nuclear material, or improvised nuclear devices.

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## 5. Definitions

a. JNAIRT. A joint specialty crisis management team that coordinates and manages CJCS responsibilities for initial time-sensitive nuclear incident/accident response management.

b. Accident. An unexpected event that may be caused by human error, carelessness, unawareness, ignorance, procedural failure, or a combination of causes.

c. Incident. An unexpected event that presents the potential for negative consequences that may be caused by accidental or intentional acts, acts of God, unfavorable environmental conditions, or other factors.

## 6. Responsibilities

a. The JNAIRT assists the National Joint Operations and Intelligence Center (NJOIC) in initiating and overseeing the early stages of a DoD response to U.S. nuclear weapon incidents/accidents, and other nuclear/radiological incidents for the CJCS. Once a CCMD assumes command of the response, the JNAIRT monitors and enables response coordination between the CCMD, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Services, and other U.S. Government entities.

b. The Director for Operations, J-3 (DJ-3) is the Joint Staff focal point for nuclear accident and incident response and will manage the JNAIRT through the Deputy Director for Operations (DDO) in the NJOIC. The J-33, Deputy Director for Nuclear and Homeland Defense Operations (DDNHDO) will develop and maintain separate detailed internal operating procedures for the JNAIRT.

c. The Joint Staff, CCMD, Services, and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) will provide support and qualified personnel to serve on the JNAIRT as required by this instruction.

7. Summary of Changes. This instruction has changed significantly from the previous edition. The goal of these changes is to improve the compatibility and standardization of the JNAIRT in its relationship to CMT operations in the NJOIC.

8. Releasability. UNRESTRICTED. This directive is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited on NIPRNET. DoD Components (to include the CCMDs), other Federal agencies, and the public may obtain copies of this directive through the Internet from the CJCS Directives Electronic Library at:

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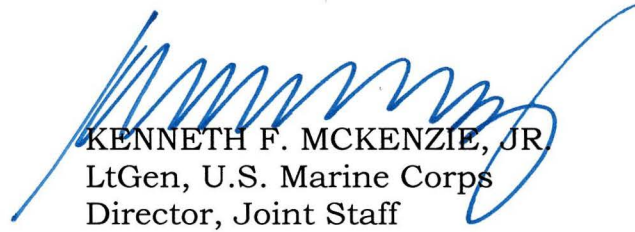
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<<http://www.jcs.mil/library>>. Joint Staff activities may also obtain access via the SIPR Directives Electronic Library Web sites.

9. Effective Date. This INSTRUCTION is effective upon receipt.

For the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff:



KENNETH F. MCKENZIE, JR.  
LtGen, U.S. Marine Corps  
Director, Joint Staff

## Enclosures

- A – Joint Nuclear Accident Incident Response Team (JNAIRT) Organization
- B – Crisis Staffing Organizations
- C – References

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## ENCLOSURE A

### JNAIRT ORGANIZATION

1. Guidance. Enclosure B establishes, defines, and describes the capabilities and procedures the Joint Staff uses to respond during a crisis.
2. Crisis Staffing. The size and scope of the JNAIRT is dependent on the magnitude of the crisis. JNAIRT personnel provide subject matter expertise in nuclear accident/incident response, recapture, and recovery of nuclear weapons, and logistics movements of nuclear weapons.
3. JNAIRT Management. The Joint Staff J-33 Nuclear Operations Division (NOD) Chief will direct the JNAIRT until the DDNHDO identifies a JNAIRT Team Chief.
4. Security. To the maximum extent possible, personnel assigned to the JNAIRT will maintain access to TOP SECRET with Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI).
  - a. Organizations not within the Joint Staff are responsible for initiating all clearance actions for their personnel and providing the clearances to the Joint Staff's Directorate of Management (DOM), Joint Staff Security Office (JSSO).
  - b. Personnel assigned to the JNAIRT will maintain access to the NJOIC.

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## APPENDIX A TO ENCLOSURE A

### JOINT NUCLEAR ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM

1. General. Upon receipt of information indicating the occurrence of an accident or incident involving a U.S. nuclear weapon or military nuclear reactor, the DJ-3 may direct the formation of the JNAIRT. Notification may be in the form of an OPREP 3 PINNACLE BROKEN ARROW, BENT SPEAR, or EMPTY QUIVER; however, an incident may be reported to the NMCC using non-OPREP-3 reporting procedures. J-33 NOD will manage DULL SWORD reports that do not require JNAIRT activation. The JNAIRT will be comprised of personnel from the Joint Staff, Services, DTRA, and CCMDs, with representation from other Defense and Federal agencies as needed. Table A-1 depicts the baseline JNAIRT structure; however, the DDNHDO may tailor the structure as needed. The JNAIRT team chief will report to the DDNHDO, who will assume responsibility for operation of the JNAIRT.

| Position                    | Grade            | Providing Agency       | Total Per Shift |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Team Chief                  | O-5/O-6          | J-33 (NOD)             | 1 (2)           |
| Deputy Team Chief           | O-4/O-5          | J-33 (NOD)             | 1 (2)           |
| Executive Assistant*        | O-4/O-5/CIV      | J-33 or FA 52 (USANCA) | 1 (2)           |
| J-3, LNO to OSD             | O-4/O-5          | J-33                   | 1 (2)           |
| J-3, Homeland Defense (HD)  | O-4/O-5/CIV      | J-33 (HD)              | 1 (2)           |
| J-5 Strategic Stability*    | O-4/O-5/CIV      | J-5                    | 1 (2)           |
| OCJCS/ Legal Counsel (LC)*  | O-4/O-5/CIV      | OCJCS LC               | On Call         |
| OCJCS/ Public Affairs (PA)* | O-4/O-5/CIV      | OCJCS PA               | On Call         |
| Admin Officer               | No rank required | J-33                   | 1 (2)           |
| Team Briefer                | O-4/O-5/CIV      | J-33                   | 1 (2)           |

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|   |                 |                             |         |
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| CCMD Liaison Officer (LNO)  | O-4/O-5         | DC Office                   | 1 (2)   |
| DTRA Nuclear Specialist*  | O-4/<br>O-5/CIV | DTRA                        | 1 (2)   |
| Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) Health Physicist*  | No rank req'd   | Defense Health Agency (DHA) | 1 (2)   |
| Service Watch Cell LNOs   | No rank req'd   | USA, USN, USAF, USMC, USCG  | On Call |
| DHS CWMD LNO  | CIV             | DHS                         | 1 (2)   |
| Total per shift for nominal contingency<br><small>*J-33 NOD will arrange for all personnel access and roster issues on behalf of these organizations.</small> |                 |                             | 13 (26) |

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Staffing requirements are nominal. DDNHDO and Team Chief, in coordination with the responsible agency, will determine exact personnel requirements. Depending on the crisis, a particular directorate, Service, CCMD, or agency may not be required to staff the JNAIRT within NMCC but rather in situ at home station. If a Directorate, Service, CCMD, or agency representative is not needed in person in the NMCC, that Directorate, Service, or agency will be notified and requested to provide the JNAIRT Team Chief with an on-call roster.

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## ENCLOSURE B

### CRISIS STAFFING ORGANIZATIONS

1. The National Military Command Center. The NMCC is the primary National Military Command System command center that supports the Secretary of Defense and the CJCS for U.S. nuclear accidents and incidents. The NMCC is the focal point for the initiation of information and data collection for the DoD response to a nuclear accident or incident.

2. Crisis Staffing

a. The crisis staffing organization depends on the magnitude of the situation. Joint Staff crisis organizations include the NMCC Operations Teams (OTs), Joint Staff CMT, and Joint Staff Specialty Teams. The NMCC OT on duty is normally the first Joint Staff organization alerted at the outbreak of a crisis. When a crisis develops that requires actions beyond the capabilities of the NMCC OTs, one or more of the Joint Staff CMTs are activated.

b. Joint Staff Specialty Teams are activated for a specific crisis, or specific aspect of a larger crisis. CMTs include:

- (1) Joint Logistics Operations Center.
- (2) Augmentation Mission Staff.
- (3) Continuity of Operations Response Cell.
- (4) JNAIRT.

3. Operation Procedures for Accident/Incident Situations. Specific procedures for JNAIRT operations are summarized below.

a. JNAIRT. During the initial phase of response to a nuclear weapon or DoD nuclear reactor accident or incident, the DDO in the NMCC will make notifications based on reception of initial OPREP. The DJ-3 may direct activation of the JNAIRT to assume responsibility for staff actions. The JNAIRT will be comprised of representatives from the Joint Staff Directorates and, when requested, augmentation personnel from the Military Services, CCMDs, and Defense agencies.

b. JNAIRT Management Concept. The NMCC provides the means by which SecDef and CJCS decisions and orders are disseminated to the DoD

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Combatant Commanders. The DJ-3 manages and operates the NMCC. The DDNHDO and the JNAIRT Team Chief will manage the JNAIRT and are responsible to the Director, J-3.

## c. Scheduled Situation and Update Briefings

(1) Scheduled nuclear accident or incident crisis update briefings will be presented by the JNAIRT designated briefer or knowledgeable members of the JNAIRT. These briefings are designed to include updates covering operations, response planning, and national concerns.

(2) In addition to scheduled crisis updates for senior officials, updated information will be provided to OSD key personnel with nuclear accident or incident responsibilities. At each shift changeover of the JNAIRT, the outgoing team chief will present a situation briefing to the incoming shift personnel prior to their assumption of duty.

d. Status of Actions (SOA). At the onset of any crisis situation, an SOA record will be initiated to ensure that a chronology of actions taken or pending is maintained. During the initial phase, the DDO (NMCC) will initiate the SOA system and appoint a team member as a single point of contact. The team member will ensure that all appropriate messages, memorandums, and assigned tasks are listed. After activation, the JNAIRT will become responsible for maintaining the SOA report. An SOA summary will be prepared as necessary, but not less than once a day, to provide accurate data during a crisis. The SOA summary should reflect any changes in actions or the fact that no changes have occurred.

4. Security. To the maximum extent possible, personnel assigned to the JNAIRT should be cleared for TOP SECRET with SCI access. This will allow for greatest flexibility when operating inside the NMCC. Organizations not under the Joint Staff are responsible for initiating the necessary clearance action and certifying the clearances to the DOM, JSSO.

5. Implementation. Annually, the Joint Staff, J-33 NOD, will conduct an in-person recall of J-33 and J-5 JNAIRT personnel, and an electronic recall of all other JNAIRT elements, directing each to forward names of JNAIRT personnel. Forward names of JNAIRT personnel to the Director, J-3, Joint Staff, ATTN: J-33 DDNHDO, Nuclear Operations Division.

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## ENCLOSURE C

### REFERENCES

- a. CJCSI 3214.01 Series, "Defense Support for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Incidents on Foreign Territory"
- b. CJCSM 3430.01 Series, "Joint Staff Crisis Organizations"
- c. CJCSI 3150.01 Series, "Joint Reporting Structure Event and Incident Reports"
- d. CJCS OPORD 3-18, "Continuity of Operations (COOP) for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff," 13 July 2018
- e. CJCSI 3261.01 Series, "Recapture and Recovery of Nuclear Weapons"
- f. DoDI 3150.10, "DoD Response to U.S. Nuclear Weapon Incidents," 2 July 2010
- g. DoDM 3150.08, "Nuclear Weapon Accident Response Procedures (NARP)," 22 August 2013

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