



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 1334.2

February 12, 2002

ASD(FM&P)

SUBJECT: Frocking of Commissioned Officers

- References:
- (a) DoD Directive 1334.2, "Frocking of Commissioned Officer," March 13, 1987 (hereby canceled)
 - (b) Title 10, United States Code
 - (c) United States Constitution, Article 2, Section II, Clause 1 and Clause 2
 - (d) Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) Memorandum, "Statutory Restrictions on the Wearing of Insignia for Higher Grade Before Promotion," May 8, 1996 (hereby canceled)
 - (e) through (h), see enclosure 1

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive reissues reference (a) to update policy and responsibilities according to references (b) through (h).

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to:

2.1. The Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of 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 collectively to as "the DoD Components").

2.2. All commissioned officers on the active duty list of the Military Services. The term "Military Services" refers to the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Marine Corps.

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3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Active Duty List. A single list for the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps that Section 620 of reference (b) requires Secretary of a Military Department to maintain. The list contains the names of all officers of that Military Service, other than warrant officers and officers that Section 641 of reference (b) describes, who are serving on active duty.

3.2. Commissioned Officer. An officer in any of the Military Departments holding an office and a commission the President signs, other than a commissioned warrant officer or retired commissioned officer.

3.3. Frocking. The administrative authority from the Secretary of the Military Department concerned granting officers selected for promotion and, if required, confirmed by the U.S. Senate, but not yet promoted, the right to wear the insignia and uniform and assume the title of the next higher grade.

4. POLICY

It is DoD policy that:

4.1. The Military Services may frock an officer to the next higher grade only according to references (b) and (c) and policies of the Department of Defense. It is DoD policy to regulate the exercise of frocking authority by establishing strict criteria as prerequisites for frocking commissioned officers, and thereby provide a standardized frocking policy among the Military Services.

4.2. The Department of Defense shall establish, for the Military Services, strict criteria and a standard policy for frocking commissioned officers to grades O-4 through O-10.

4.2.1. The Military Services may not frock an officer unless the Senate gives its advice and consent for the appointment of that officer to the next higher grade, or where Senate confirmation is not required, the officer has been selected for promotion to the next higher grade.

4.2.2. All officers shall either be serving or have permanent change of station orders to serve in a higher grade position and already have detached from the previous position. Additionally, the officer with the permanent change of station orders shall begin serving in the position of the higher grade within 60 days.

4.2.2.1. If extended permanent change of station enroute delays are expected the Military Services may frock officers in grades O-8 and below for greater than 60 days before they begin serving in the higher grade position. In this case, frocking may occur no earlier than the date that the officer leaves the previous duty station.

4.2.2.2. The Military Services may frock officers in grades above O-8 for a maximum of 60 days before service in the higher grade position. The Military Services shall forward requests for exemption to this policy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy).

4.2.3. Frocking shall be essential to the officer's maximum effectiveness in the assigned billet. Appropriate situations are when the officer is assigned to:

4.2.3.1. Positions in the international environment.

4.2.3.2. Joint-duty positions.

4.2.3.3. Command positions.

4.2.3.4. Other unusual circumstances, as the Service Secretary determines.

4.2.4. The total number of O-6s on the active duty list that may be authorized to be frocked to the grade of O-7 may not exceed the limits in Section 777 of reference (b). The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) has allocated the frocking authorizations to the grade of O-7 to the Military Services by memorandum dated October 14, 1999, Subject: "Frocking Allocations" (reference (e)). Whenever a change may occur to the Military Service frocking allocations the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) will make notification.

4.2.5. The Service Secretaries may not exceed the limitations outlined in Section 777 of reference (b) of the number of an Armed Force's officers on the active duty list authorized to be frocked in the grades O-4 through O-6.

4.2.6. When reference (b) does not provide specific limitations the Military Service Secretaries shall limit frocking following the standards in references (b) and (c) and in DoD policy.

4.3. Military Service Secretaries shall submit semiannual frocking reports to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy). Frocking reports for general and flag officers shall be submitted in accordance with reference (h). Frocking reports for all other commissioned officers shall be summarized by grade and shall include the number of officers frocked within each frocking category. Frocking categorical justification codes shall be limited to:

4.3.1. IE (Assignment to an international environment position).

4.3.2. JD (Assignment to a joint-duty position).

4.3.3. C (Assignment to a command position).

4.3.4. O (Other unusual circumstances, as the Service Secretary determines).

4.4. Semiannual frocking reports shall be as of 1 October and 1 April and due on October 15th and April 15th.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management and Personnel, under the Secretary of Defense for Personnel Readiness shall monitor compliance with this Directive.

5.2. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall:


5.2.1. Approve, or delegate authority to approve, frocking and administer the frocking programs of their Military Departments, ensuring they comply with statute and DoD policies.

5.2.2. Establish controls to ensure their respective Military Departments do not exceed frocking limits.

5.2.3. Provide the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) with semiannual frocking reports.

7. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately.



Paul Wolfowitz
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures - 1

1. References, continued

E1. ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES, continued

- (e) Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) Memorandum, "Frocking Allocations," October 14, 1999
- (f) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Frocking Officers Above the Grade of Major General or Rear Admiral," July 6, 1988 (hereby canceled)
- (g) Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) Memorandum, "General and Flag Officer Management Reports," December 7, 1992
- (h) Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy) Memorandum, "General and Flag Officer Management Report," April 23, 1999