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ASD(M&RA)

Department of Defense Directive

SUBJECT Policies Relating to Senior Reserve Officers'
Training Corps (ROTC) Programs

- Refs: (a) Title 50, Appendix, United States Code
(b) Title 10, United States Code
(c) Public Law 92-166, 92nd Congress, November 24,
1971 (amendment to 10 USC 2107)
(d) DoD Directive 1215.8, subject as above, June 19,
1971 (hereby cancelled)

I. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

This Directive outlines the purpose and objectives of the Senior ROTC program, and establishes policy guidance for the Military Departments in conducting and administering ROTC.

II. CANCELLATION

Reference (d) is hereby superseded and cancelled.

III. DEFINITIONS

The term "field training" as used herein means:

- A. Summer camp training prescribed by 10 USC 2109 (reference (b)).
- B. Additional training authorized by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned as voluntary off-campus training designed for the further practical instruction and leadership development of members of the program.

IV. POLICY

A. Purpose and Objectives of the Senior ROTC Program

1. The purpose of the Senior ROTC is to provide a permanent and stable program of military education at designated college level institutions to prepare selected students for service as Regular or Reserve commissioned officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps.
2. Senior ROTC educational programs qualify students for commissioning and establish a sound basis for their future professional growth and effective performance in the Military Service of their choice. The primary objectives of the Senior ROTC program are to provide ROTC students with:
 - a. An understanding of the fundamental concepts and principles of military or naval science or aerospace studies.
 - b. A basic understanding of associated professional knowledge.
 - c. A strong sense of personal integrity, honor, and individual responsibility.
 - d. An appreciation of the requirements for national security.

B. Establishment and Continuation of ROTC Units at Educational Institutions

1. To receive consideration for establishment of an ROTC unit, an educational institution must:
 - a. Apply in writing to a Military Department.
 - b. Be fully accredited by the appropriate regional or national authority.
 - c. Agree to provide adequate physical facilities as specified by the respective Military Department.
 - d. Certify that it does not discriminate with respect to admission or subsequent treatment of students on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

2. ROTC units will not be established or maintained at an educational institution unless:
 - a. The senior commissioned officer of the Military Department concerned is given the academic rank of professor (10 USC 2102 (b) (1)), reference (b).
 - b. The institution fulfills the terms of its agreement with the Secretary of the Military Department concerned (10 USC 2102 (b) (2)), reference (b).
 - c. The institution adopts as a part of its curriculum a four (4) year course of military instruction or a two (2) year course of advanced training of military instruction, or both, which the Secretary of the Military Department concerned prescribes and conducts (10 USC 2102 (b) (3)), reference (b). Student enrollment shall be elective or compulsory as provided by state law or the authorities of the institution.
3. Two (2) or more Military Departments may operate ROTC units on the same campus. Decisions to collocate additional units should be based on the school's ability to accommodate the additional unit without affecting the ability of the original unit to remain productive. Prior to final selection of an educational institution to receive a new ROTC unit, a Service will:
 - a. Furnish lists of proposed new units to the other Services.
 - b. Consult with any Service which already has a unit at the school under consideration or is actively considering the school for establishment of a new unit.
 - c. Negotiate with such Service when problems may arise from collocation of two or more ROTC units on the same campus.
 - d. Refer the matter to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) if the difficulties cannot be resolved among the Services.
4. Prior to releasing information on the location of proposed ROTC units, the Military Departments will provide this information to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) and the other Services.

C. Disestablishment of ROTC Units. The annual officer production from each ROTC unit should be adequate to justify the investment of Department of Defense resources.

1. Officer production indices from an ROTC unit will be based on advanced course enrollment in Military Science 3 or other Service equivalent for the current year. A unit will be considered substandard when its Military Science 3 enrollment is below:
 - a. Seventeen (17) to twenty (20) students where an institution prescribes a four (4) year or combination four (4) and two (2) year program.
 - b. Twelve (12) to fifteen (15) students where the institution prescribes a two (2) year program.
2. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may set the minimum enrollment within the numbers prescribed in a. and b., above.
3. Each year the Military Departments will advise ROTC institutions whose units fall below the prescribed minimum advanced course enrollment in Military Science 3 that the units have been placed in an evaluation status for a one (1) year school period. During this period the Services will work closely with the institutions to seek measures which would make the ROTC units fully productive.
4. Units will be released from evaluation status as soon as they meet or exceed the minimum production index.
5. At the end of the one (1) year evaluation period, or earlier if mutually agreed upon between the Services and the host institutions, the Military Departments should initiate disestablishment procedures. Units should be phased out with sufficient time to permit enrolled ROTC students to complete the program or offer the students a practical alternative for obtaining commissions.
6. OASD(M&RA) will be advised when ROTC units are placed in an evaluation status and of the final disposition of each case.

7. Other criteria such as cost per officer produced, quality of officer produced, institutional support, and retention rate of graduates by institution may be considered by the Military Departments concerned in actions pertaining to disestablishment of ROTC units.
8. The decision to disestablish an ROTC unit is the prerogative of the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.

D. Department of Defense Policy Regarding Operation of ROTC Units

1. Academic Credit for ROTC Courses Taught by Military Instructors. ROTC courses will be reviewed by host institutions for credit on the same basis as other institutional courses. The Military Departments will urge that maximum credit be provided. If credit is questioned, the institution should recommend adjustments which would make the courses credit worthy. Regardless of the amount of credit, reflection of ROTC course grades should appear on student transcripts. Denial of degree credit would not necessarily mean withdrawal of the unit.
2. Student Eligibility for ROTC Based on Undergraduate Major Courses of Study. Undergraduate students will not be denied the opportunity to enroll in ROTC solely because of their major course of study.
3. Procedures When Advanced Course Students Drop ROTC. When advanced course students drop ROTC in breach of their contractual agreements, the senior officer commanding the ROTC unit will appoint a board of officers or an investigating officer to determine the reasons for such action. At least one university official (an administrator or faculty member appointed by the institution) will be permitted to observe the hearing or investigation. The student concerned has the right to appear personally before the board or the officer conducting the hearing. Disenrollees will normally be ordered to active enlisted service. Each case will be considered on its own merits. This does not preclude the Military Department from considering physical disqualification, humanitarian reasons, needs of the Service, or other mitigating circumstances in waiving active enlisted service for the disenrolled ROTC cadet. Such considerations should be carefully documented in the board's or investigating officer's report and by the Military Service. The final decision concerning active enlisted service will be made by the Military Department.

4. Ordering Certain Disenrolled ROTC Students to Active Duty Enlisted Service. The Military Departments will delay ordering students who have breached their contracts to active duty until they would normally complete their undergraduate degree requirements or disenroll from the institution, whichever occurs first. Disenrolled graduate students will not be ordered to active duty until they would normally complete the academic year in which they are enrolled or disenrolled from the institution, whichever occurs first. Scholarship or nonscholarship students who default during their junior and senior years and are ordered to active duty enlisted service will be required to serve for two (2) years. Scholarship students who complete their junior and senior years but refuse to accept their commissions will be required to serve for four (4) years. Scholarship students who default during their freshman or sophomore years will not incur an active duty enlisted commitment unless they were active duty enlisted personnel when selected for ROTC scholarships and were discharged early for purpose of accepting the scholarship. These personnel will normally be ordered to active duty at the end of the school term (i. e., semester, quarter, etc.) in which they are disenrolled. Their service commitment will be determined as follows:
 - a. If they were members of the basic course when disenrollment occurred, their service commitment will be equivalent to the time not served on their original enlistment contract when they were discharged or separated to accept an ROTC scholarship. Those individuals with less than one (1) year remaining will be discharged upon approval of the disenrollment by the Military Department.
 - b. If they were members of the advanced course when disenrollment occurred, their service commitment will be the same as other contract violators cited above.
5. Appropriate Titles for Military Officers Assigned to ROTC. In accordance with 10 USC 2102 (b) (1), reference (b), the senior officer of each ROTC unit must receive the academic rank of professor (excluding tenure), including appropriate prerogatives and perquisites associated with the position of a professor as head of a department or program at the institution. As an alternative to the title of professor, the most complimentary title for the ROTC unit commander is the military title of the officer. Other titles such as Visiting Professor are acceptable provided the prerogatives and perquisites of professorial rank (excluding tenure) accompany the position, and the title is not demeaning or

indicative of some lesser status. Other ROTC officers will be evaluated by the host institution for appropriate academic rank using procedures comparable to those used for their civilian faculty colleagues.

6. Descriptive Title of ROTC Unit on Campus, i. e., Program, Department or Other Term. The term "Program" in lieu of "Department" is acceptable as a descriptive term for the ROTC educational activity provided no extracurricular connotation is involved. In this sense "Program" would be applied to ROTC in the same manner as other academic programs within the institution.
 7. Unit Discretion on Uniforms and Amount of Drill. The Military Departments will prescribe the specific standards of performance which cadets and midshipmen should achieve in drill. The specific amount of drill to obtain this standard will be prescribed by the Professors of Military Science, Naval Science, and Aerospace Studies. Uniforms will be worn for drill and as otherwise prescribed by the Commanding Officer of the unit.
 8. Institutional Standing Committees on ROTC. The Military Departments will cooperate with institutional standing committees on ROTC to develop mutually a program of instruction consistent with the goals of both parties. Where the university poses changes which are inconsistent with the law or military policies, the Military Departments shall reject the proposals.
 9. Course Substitution. The Military Departments may use institutionally taught courses or courses taught jointly by both civilian and military faculties when these courses satisfy the objective contained in the ROTC curriculum and exist or can be developed by the university. Guest lecturers may provide specific hours of instruction in areas where they are academically qualified provided the institution approves of this practice. This provision shall not be used to reduce the required minimum military contact hours as specified by the Military Departments.
- E. Acceptance by ROTC Staff Members of Payments or Other Benefits Offered by Educational Institutions. An ROTC staff member may accept only the following payments or other benefits from an institution.

1. Reasonable compensation or other benefits specifically for services that are rendered the institution other than during the duty hours of the military staff members of the ROTC unit (such as coach for an athletic team, parking lot attendant, Assistant Military Property Custodian, Commandant of Cadets, Assistant Commandant of Cadets), provided the services are not part of the member's regularly assigned military duties, do not interfere with the full and effective performance of his official military duties, do not bring discredit upon the Government, and do not interfere with the customary or regular employment of local civilians in their art, trade, or profession. Duty hours for individual staff members of an ROTC unit may not vary from the duty hours of the unit simply to permit them to qualify for compensation for services rendered to an institution during the duty hours of the ROTC unit.
2. Housing, if a reasonable rental is paid therefor. If housing is accepted by a member from an institution at other than a reasonable rental, as for example, without charge, the housing will be considered as furnished on behalf of the United States and the member will not be entitled to a basic allowance for quarters.
3. Reimbursement by the institution for expenses incurred by the member for services that he performed at the request of the institution and, although clearly beyond the scope of his regularly assigned military duties, that he might have been expected to perform by virtue of his position, such as hosting a social function for visiting dignitaries or conducting an off-campus workshop for faculty or students. Itemized bills for these expenses must be presented to the institution. Whenever practicable, however, arrangements should be made for the institution to be billed for these expenses so that they may be paid directly by the institution. Under no circumstances may a commuted or fixed allowance be accepted from the institution for the purpose of meeting these expenses.
4. Enrollment in courses by the member or any member of his immediate family; tickets to school or school sponsored activities; parking privileges; books and other supplies and materials from the institution's book store; and library privileges, either without charge or at a reduced rate if offered on the same basis to civilian members of the staff or faculty of the institution.

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- F. Procedures Regarding Oaths and Security Requirements, Physical Examination, Deferment, Commissioning and Assignment of Graduates. (See enclosure 1.)
- G. ROTC Scholarship Program. The minimum age for award of ROTC scholarships is 17. DD Form 1893 will be used by students applying for four-year ROTC scholarships. At least 50% of each Military Department's ROTC scholarship recipients must qualify for in-state tuition rates at their respective institutions and will receive tuition benefits at that rate. The limitation is applied on a departmental basis.
- H. Conduct of Field Training. Training under III. A. is prescribed by 10 USC 2109 (reference (b)), and requires successful completion by members of the program as a prerequisite to commissioning. Additional off-campus training under subsection III. B. may be authorized by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned when he determines that such training serves the best interest of the Military Service. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned may authorize such expenditures as he deems necessary to insure successful participation in such voluntary off-campus training programs.

V. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately. Two copies of implementing documents will be forwarded to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) within 90 days.

H. P. Clements
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosure - 1

Procedures Regarding Oaths and Security Requirements, Physical Examination, Deferment, Commissioning and Assignment of Graduates

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Procedures Regarding Oaths and Security Requirements,
Physical Examination, Deferment, Commissioning
and Assignment of Graduates

A. Oaths and Security Requirements

1. Basic Course Enrollment

- a. With the exception of foreign students enrolled under 10 USC 2103 (b) (reference (b)), each applicant for formal enrollment in the basic course, Senior ROTC, will execute the following oath or affirmation:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion."

- b. Students who are required or permitted by educational institutions to undergo military training and who are not accepted for formal enrollment may receive basic course instruction with the approval of the Military Department concerned.

2. Financial Assistance Programs and Advanced Course Enrollment. Each applicant for appointment or enrollment in any of the financial assistance programs of the Services and each applicant for appointment or enrollment in the advanced course, Senior ROTC, will satisfy the loyalty and security requirements for enlistment in the Reserve Components of the appropriate Military Service.

B. Physical Examination

1. To reduce to an absolute minimum the loss, at graduation, of persons found physically disqualified for appointment as commissioned officers, thorough and complete physical examinations will be conducted prior to enrollment in the scholarship program or at the time of, or immediately prior to, enrollment in the advanced courses of Army, Navy, and Air Force ROTC programs.
2. Such examinations will, in all respects, be equal to the examinations conducted to determine physical qualifications for appointment as commissioned officers.

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3. Physically disqualified persons may participate in a non-enrolled status with the approval of the Military Department concerned.
- C. Deferment Agreements. Enrollees who acquire exemption or deferment from induction by virtue of their enrollment in ROTC will execute agreements as provided in Section 456 (d) (1) of Title 50, Appendix, USC (reference (a)). Enrollees other than those described above may be required to execute such agreements as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned.
1. The DD Form 44 will be issued for all financial assistance grant and nonfinancial assistance grant students who have registered with Selective Service. The following procedures will apply:
 - a. DD Form 44 will be submitted to the local Selective Service Board at the time ROTC students enter the program.
 - b. DD Form 44 may be forwarded to local boards subsequent to selecting a financial assistance grant student for admittance to the program.
 - c. DD Form 44 may be forwarded to local boards for two-year ROTC program students subsequent to selection for six-week field training.
 2. All other students who are already enrolled in ROTC but are not of draft age will have their DD Form 44 submitted to the local board at the time they are required to register with Selective Service.
- D. Cross Enrollment. A student at an institution that does not have an ROTC unit is eligible, if otherwise qualified, to be a member of a unit at another institution.
- E. Commissioning of Graduates. Upon the successful completion of the required course of instruction, a graduate of a program referred to herein shall, if otherwise qualified, be appointed a Regular or Reserve officer in the appropriate Armed Force.

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F. Assignment of Graduates

1. A graduate who has executed an agreement described in C., above, shall serve on active duty under the terms of the agreement. If not needed on active duty at the time of appointment, a graduate will be ordered to active duty for a period of three to six months with the Armed Force in which commissioned.
2. Graduates shall be called to active duty or active duty for training as soon as possible within a twelve-month period following their appointment as commissioned officers.
3. Graduates who have fulfilled their active military training and service obligation, or who have enlisted Reserve status and have performed six months active duty for training under Section 511 or Section 672 (d) of Title 10, USC, (reference (b)), following their appointment as commissioned officers and in accordance with military service requirements, may either be ordered to active duty or active duty for training per F. 1., above, under conditions contained in agreements with the Military Departments, or be given appropriate Ready Reserve assignments, preferably in the Selected Reserve when unit location and skill requirements are compatible with the residence of the assignee and his military skill.
4. A graduate may be delayed from being ordered to active duty or active duty for training under regulations issued by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned if he (a) is the recipient of a fellowship or scholarship, (b) has been accepted by a recognized institution of higher education for graduate studies, (c) would suffer undue personal hardship, or (d) is otherwise precluded from reporting as ordered for cogent and acceptable reasons. If delayed, he shall remain subject to the assignment criteria prescribed in F. 1. thru 3., above, and shall be assigned to active duty or active duty for training, as appropriate, at such time as the cause of his delay ceases to exist.