SUBJECT: National Security Education Program

(b) Acting Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “DoD Directives Review – Phase II,” July 13, 2005
(c) Sections 1901-1912 of Title 50, United States Code
(e) “Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Transfer of the National Security Education Program (NSEP) to the National Defense University (NDU),” October 28, 1998

1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Instruction:

1.1. Reissues Reference (a) as a DoD Instruction according to the guidance in Reference (b) and implements the responsibilities of the Secretary of Defense for administering the National Security Education Program (NSEP) according to References (c) and (d).

1.2. Updates policy and assigns responsibilities for the conduct of the NSEP. Continues the National Defense University’s (NDU) responsibilities for administrative and logistical support to NSEP, as outlined in Reference (e), except to the extent otherwise set forth in this Instruction.

2. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

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

It is DoD policy that:

3.1. The Heads of the DoD Components develop programs to ensure NSEP graduates fulfill their service commitment under section 1902(b) of Reference (c).

3.2. The NSEP:

3.2.1. Is an integral component of the DoD Language Transformation Plan and provides the Department of Defense and other Federal entities, as applicable, with personnel who possess high levels of proficiency in languages and foreign regional expertise critical to national security by:

3.2.1.1. Providing scholarships and fellowships under section 1902(a) of Reference (c) for students who are U.S. citizens, to pursue undergraduate and graduate study in domestic and foreign education systems to assist in meeting national security needs for professionals with in-depth knowledge of world languages and cultures.

3.2.1.2. Providing scholarships under section 1902(a) of Reference (c) to heritage community citizens who are U.S. citizens, and whose native language is critical to the national security of the United States, to pursue English language studies at institutions of higher education.

3.2.1.3. Awarding grants to institutions of higher education for programs in critical areas under section 1902(a)(1) of Reference (c) and under the National Flagship Language Initiative section 1902(i) of Reference (c), to implement a national system of programs to produce advanced language expertise critical to the national security of the United States.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) shall:

4.1.1. Provide overall policy guidance for carrying out the responsibilities and duties of the Secretary of Defense under Reference (c), according to Reference (d).

4.1.2. Chair or designate a member of the Senior Executive Service or an individual of equivalent rank to represent the Secretary of Defense as Chair of the National Security Education Board (NSEB) under section 1903 of Reference (c).

4.1.3. Ensure appropriate resources are programmed for the NSEP and provide oversight for the administration of the NSEP.

4.1.4. Determine under section 1902(a) of Reference (c), after consultation with NSEB, and in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)), and the Under
Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)), which countries, languages, and disciplines are critical and in which there are deficiencies knowledgeable personnel within Federal entities.

4.1.5. Develop programs, processes, and policies to ensure NSEP graduates fulfill their service commitment through internships or employment in Federal service under Reference (c).

4.2. The USD(P) and the USD(I) annually shall provide the USD(P&R) information and guidance on NSEP program priorities, including identification and recommendations on critical countries, critical languages, and critical disciplines for program emphasis.

4.3. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall direct the President, NDU, to:

4.3.1. Provide program and budget management and other administrative, facility, and logistic support functions to NSEP operations, in accordance with Reference (e).

4.3.2. Develop programs and processes to ensure NSEP graduates fulfill their government service commitment by providing internship or employment at NDU, as available.

4.3.3. Provide fiscal management and oversight to ensure all funds provided for NSEP are separately and visibly accounted for in the DoD budget.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Instruction is effective immediately.

David S. C. Chu
Under Secretary of Defense
(Personnel and Readiness)