



# CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

J-1

DISTRIBUTION: A, C, J, S

CJCSI 1120.01D

9 April 2012

## STREAMERS AND DISTINGUISHING AND POSITIONAL FLAGS FOR JOINT COMMANDS

### References:

- a. DoDM 1348.33V-1 November 2010
- b. Title 10, United States Code, Section 4594

1. Purpose. This instruction establishes policy for the authorization of distinguishing flags and streamers for joint commands and flags for designated positions in accordance with references a and b.

2. Superseded/Canceled. CJCSI 1120.01C, 18 January 2008, is hereby superseded.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the Joint Staff, Combatant Commands, and permanently established joint commands or activities reporting to or through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

4. Policy.

a. Positional Flags.

(1) Positional flags are authorized to indicate the official status or rank of certain civilian and military officials of the Federal government.

(2) Positional flags within the joint arena will be 4'4" x 5'6" and are authorized for the Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

b. Distinguishing Flags.

(1) Distinguishing flags are symbolic of the spirit and history of the joint organization for which they are authorized. Joint activities commanded

by officers in the grade of O-5 or higher are authorized distinguishing flags.

(2) Flag size will be 4'4" x 5'6" for Combatant Commands; 3' x 4' for other authorized joint activities as defined above.

c. Streamers.

(1) Joint activities that have been awarded a unit commendation, Service, or campaign award may display the respective streamer on their distinguishing flag.

(2) Silver and bronze stars will be used on campaign or Service award streamers to denote specific phases designated for a campaign and numerals on unit award streamers to denote the total number approved.

(3) A joint activity that is not authorized a distinguishing flag will not be awarded a streamer. Further, activities with a distinguishing flag are authorized only those campaign streamers for action in which the activity directly participated.

(4) Before award of a campaign streamer, campaign participation credit will be verified and recorded by the Combatant Command historical office or the Service historical office. Since entitlement to streamers is keyed to campaign participation and unit awards earned, upon verification individual units will make determination of personnel eligibility at the local level.

(5) Service units that are assigned to a joint task force or joint activity are not eligible to be awarded a Joint Meritorious Unit Award (JMUA) and are not permitted to carry a JMUA streamer in accordance with reference a.

d. Authorization.

(1) All Combatant Commands are authorized to carry distinguishing flags.

(2) Unless permanently established under a permanent joint manpower document, joint task forces and other joint activities are not authorized to carry distinguishing flags.

(3) Authorization for a distinguishing flag for permanent joint task forces and joint activities reporting to the Combatant Commanders must be endorsed by the Combatant Commander and approved by the Joint Staff.

(4) Per reference b, joint activities authorized to display distinguishing flags must request assistance from The Institute of Heraldry (TIOH) in designing and preparing the manufacturing specifications and drawings for the

official flag. The joint activity is then responsible for the ordering and purchase of the approved flag per the TIOH specifications.

5. Definitions.

a. Permanently established commands or activities are those that are organized under a permanent joint manpower document or the Joint Duty Assignment List, as opposed to joint task forces that are organized for operations of a temporary nature.

b. The term "joint" connotes activities, operations, or organizations in which elements of more than one Service of the same nation, as reflected in joint manpower documents or the Joint Duty Assignment List, perform joint missions under the auspices of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff or the commander of a unified or specified command. Supporting elements of such activities composed of one Military Service will not be considered elements of a joint activity.

6. Responsibilities. Specific command responsibilities are established in paragraph 4. The Joint Staff J-1 is responsible for revision of and guidance concerning this instruction.

7. Summary of Changes. This revised instruction amends the instruction to provide more concise guidance on the eligibility of commands, chain of command responsibilities, and approval procedures. In addition, it clarifies the coordination role of TIOH in the process.

8. Releasability. This instruction is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. DOD components (to include the combatant commands), other Federal agencies, and the public may obtain copies of this instruction through the Internet from the CJCS Directives Home Page--[http://www.dtic.mil/cjcs\\_directives](http://www.dtic.mil/cjcs_directives).

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



N. W. TYSON  
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