



Department of Defense **INSTRUCTION**

NUMBER 3200.16

April 21, 2015

USD(P&R)

SUBJECT: Operational Range Clearance (ORC)

References: See Enclosure 1

1. **PURPOSE.** This instruction reissues DoD Instruction (DoDI) 3200.16 (Reference (a)), in accordance with the authority in DoD Directives (DoDDs) 5124.02 and 3200.15 (References (b) and (c)), to establish policy, assign responsibilities, and provide procedures for conducting ORC to maintain operational range safety and sustainability.

2. **APPLICABILITY.** This instruction:

a. Applies to:

(1) OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint 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 within the DoD (referred to collectively in this instruction as the "DoD Components").

(2) Operational ranges within the United States.

(3) Operational ranges outside the United States to the extent compliance with this instruction does not conflict with obligations under applicable international agreements, including status of forces agreements, country-specific final governing standards, and DoD 4715.05-G (Reference (d)), whichever apply.

(4) The DoD Component with real property accountability for the range.

b. Does not apply to:

(1) Indoor ranges or other than operational ranges.

(2) Operational ranges used solely to support contingency operations, unless otherwise specified.

3. POLICY. It is DoD policy to:

a. Conduct ORC, to include surface clearance of the range at a minimum, to promote the long-term use of training and test ranges. The extent of ORC will be balanced with mission risk and cost considerations.

b. Preserve the capacity of operational ranges to support current and future mission requirements.

c. Establish ORC procedures that safeguard DoD personnel, DoD contractors, authorized users, and equipment in all phases of ORC processing and recycling.

d. Implement ORC to reduce risk from the acute safety hazards and costs associated with cleanup if the range is closed or transferred outside of DoD control.


e. Maintain permanent records associated with range use and ORC to facilitate safe use and long-term sustainment of the ranges and to keep proper documentation if the range is permanently closed.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 2.

5. PROCEDURES. See Enclosure 3.

6. RELEASABILITY. **Cleared for public release**. This instruction is available on the Internet from the DoD Issuances Website at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives>.

7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This instruction is effective April 21, 2015.



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Enclosures

1. References
2. Responsibilities
3. Procedures

Glossary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ENCLOSURE 1: REFERENCES.....4

ENCLOSURE 2: RESPONSIBILITIES.....5

 ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR READINESS (ASD(R))5

 USD(AT&L).....5

 UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)/CHIEF FINANCIAL
 OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.....5

 DoD COMPONENT HEADS.....5

ENCLOSURE 3: PROCEDURES.....7

 ORC7

 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.....8

 RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS8

 USE AGREEMENTS9

GLOSSARY10

 PART I: ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS10

 PART II: DEFINITIONS.....10

ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES

- (a) DoD Instruction 3200.16, "Operational Range Clearance," June 13, 2005 (hereby cancelled)
- (b) DoD Directive 5124.02, "Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R))," June 23, 2008
- (c) DoD Directive 3200.15, "Sustaining Access to the Live Training and Test Domain," December 18, 2013
- (d) DoD 4715.05-G, "Overseas Environmental Baseline Guidance Document," May 1, 2007
- (e) DoD Directive 1322.18, "Military Training," January 13, 2009
- (f) DoD Directive 5101.13E, "DoD Executive Agent for the Unexploded Ordnance Center of Excellence (UXOCOE)," March 2, 2006
- (g) DoD Directive 5134.01, "Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L))," December 9, 2005, as amended
- (h) DoD 7000.14-R, Volumes 1 through 15, "Department of Defense Financial Management Regulations (FMRs)," date varies by volume
- (i) DoD 6055.09-M, "DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards," February 29, 2008, as amended
- (j) DoD Instruction 4140.62, "Material Potentially Presenting an Explosive Hazard," November 25, 2008, as amended
- (k) DoD 4160.21-M, "Defense Materiel Disposition Manual," August 18, 1997
- (l) Parts 266.201 through 266.206, Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations
- (m) DoD 4715.6-R, "Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Program," January 17, 2001
- (n) Title 10, United States Code

ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR READINESS (ASD(R)). Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the ASD(R):

a. Develops policy and oversees training activities on operational ranges, including ORC, as specified in DoDD 1322.18 (Reference (e)).

b. In coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)), establishes joint Service ORC technology requirements and oversees the incorporation of these requirements into the DoD Components' technology programs with the Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Center of Excellence, as specified in DoDD 5101.13E (Reference (f)).

2. USD(AT&L). The USD(AT&L):

a. In coordination with the ASD(R), establishes joint Service ORC technology requirements and oversees the transition of these requirements into technology programs with the UXO Center of Excellence, as specified in Reference (f).

b. Is the proponent for policy and procedures to ensure that test and evaluation facilities and resources within and outside the DoD are adequate to meet test and evaluation requirements as specified in DoDD 5134.01 (Reference (g)).

3. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense provides financial management policy regarding reimbursement to DoD by non-DoD users for costs associated with ORC in accordance with DoD 7000.14-R (Reference (h)).

4. DoD COMPONENT HEADS. The DoD Component heads are responsible for executing ORC in accordance with the procedures in Enclosure 3 of this instruction. The DoD Component heads:

a. Plan, program, and budget for activities that:

(1) Promote safety, access, and long-term use of operational ranges.

(2) Reduce the risk and cost if a range is closed or transferred outside of DoD control.

- b. Identify and communicate ORC technology requirements to the USD(AT&L) and utilize the resulting technology for ORC as appropriate.
- c. Determine the frequency, scope, and degree to which ORC is required to support current and future mission requirements.
- d. Conduct appropriate ORC before changing mission-related operations on a portion of an operational range in accordance with the procedures in Enclosure 3 of this instruction.
- e. Establish procedures for ORC.
- f. Maintain permanent records associated with range usage, including ORC.
- g. Require DoD personnel conducting ORC to meet the qualifications established in DoD 6055.09-M (Reference (i)) and DoDI 4140.62 (Reference (j)).
- h. Ensure contracts or other legal agreements with non-DoD entities for ORC require such entities to comply with Reference (j) and DoD 4160.21-M (Reference (k)), as appropriate.

ENCLOSURE 3

PROCEDURES

1. ORC

a. The DoD Components will conduct ORC in compliance with applicable laws (e.g., Parts 266.201 through 266.206 of Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, also known as the “Military Munitions Rule” (Reference (l))); regulations; and DoD policies and procedures (e.g., safety, environmental, and cultural).

b. The DoD Components will conduct appropriate ORC before changing the mission-related use of an operational range, including changes in the types or use of munitions.

c. The DoD Components will develop procedures for ORC that are based on the frequency, scope, and degree required to safeguard DoD personnel, DoD contractors, authorized users, and equipment. These procedures will account for all phases of ORC, processing, and recycling to sustain the range’s long-term use and meet mission requirements. Surface clearance will be required at a minimum, and more extensive ORC determinations will be based on:

(1) Previous ORC.

(2) Past, current, and anticipated use. When portions of an operational range are used for different purposes (e.g., impact area, small arms range, fire and maneuver, live or inert), the frequency and degree of ORC may vary.

(3) Requirements included in land withdrawals, leases, and other land use agreements.

(4) The specific types (e.g., by nomenclature, national stock number, or part number) and quantities of all munitions used or to be used, including but not limited to munitions that contain high explosives, sensitive fuses, spotting devices (e.g., practice bombs, training devices, simulators), submunitions, and depleted uranium (DU).

(5) The locations of areas requiring ORC (e.g., road networks to or from target areas for replacement actions, targets, buffer areas), with graduated levels of clearance based on potential hazards, sustainment, and ability to support changing training and testing requirements.

(6) The operational impacts and safety considerations that could affect the sustainability, maintenance actions, or intended current and long-term use of the range posed by:

(a) Accumulation of used military munitions (e.g., UXO and munitions debris).

(b) Radioactive materials contained or previously contained in targets (e.g., radium dials, gauges, or DU) as addressed in DoD 4715.6-R (Reference (m)).

(c) Range-related debris or other debris on an operational range.

(7) The potential explosive hazards posed by UXO to those DoD and non-DoD personnel who have authorized access to operational ranges.

(8) The geophysical, topographical, climatic, and other conditions that may influence ORC decisions.

d. The DoD installation will consider, in coordination with legal counsel, if ORC activities related solely to support the sale of eligible recyclable material such as range scrap, mixed metals from range residue, and small arms range brass are an eligible cost of the installation Qualified Recycling Program in accordance with Chapter 5 of Volume 11 of Reference (h); Chapter 7 of Reference (k); and section 2577 of Title 10, United States Code (Reference (n)).

e. The DoD Components will establish guidelines for the use of controlled burns, manual methods, or herbicides, in coordination with appropriate installation to staff (environmental, pest management, facilities management, natural resources, etc.) to remove vegetation on operational ranges in support of ORC (e.g., clearing vegetation to expose UXO). Controlled burns will not be used as a means of destroying UXO on operational ranges.

2. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

a. The DoD Components will complete a risk assessment and implement methods as appropriate to mitigate any potential exposure before conducting ORC to ensure personnel protection and safe access in accordance with Volumes 1 and 7 of Reference (i).

b. The DoD Components will conduct ORC for used military munitions (e.g., UXO and munitions debris) and range-related debris that may impair or inhibit the continued safe use of an operational range for its intended purpose.

(1) Munitions debris, range-related debris, and other material potentially presenting an explosive hazard (MPPEH) will be managed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations for recycling, and MPPEH policy in References (k) and (j).

(2) MPPEH management and disposition will, when possible, use a closed-circuit chain of custody to process MPPEH that is munitions debris or range-related debris. A single entity will manage this process and maintain the chain of custody from collection at the range through final disposition.

3. RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS. The DoD Components will maintain permanent records at the local level of:

a. All military munitions expended, including an estimated dud rate, by type, quantity, location, and using organization.

b. All ORC and explosives ordnance disposal actions and incidents conducted on the operational range and their location coordinates.

c. The coordinates of all areas known or suspected of containing UXO (e.g., impact areas, targets, berms) in a DoD Component's operational range inventory.

4. USE AGREEMENTS

a. The DoD Components will:

(1) Ensure that all non-DoD users of operational ranges enter into a use agreement, except in cases of incidental use (i.e., infrequent, non-routine use, such as once or twice a year) that does not result in ORC costs. Each use agreement will be maintained locally and in writing and will specifically address reimbursement for the use of the range in accordance with Reference (i) and will hold DoD harmless for use of the range.

(2) Document responsibilities for ORC, to include munitions expenditure reporting; and address hazardous materials prohibitions in accordance with section 2692 of Reference (n).

b. A written agreement will document the responsibilities of the parties for compliance with this instruction in cases where a range is operated by another DoD Component.

c. For operational ranges outside the United States, compliance with applicable DoD policy, international agreements, and use agreements is required. Where these conflict, consult the appropriate DoD Component legal office for guidance and to confirm whether the most protective applicable requirement applies.

GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASD(R)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness
DoDD	DoD directive
DoDI	DoD instruction
DU	depleted uranium
MPPEH	material potentially presenting an explosive hazard
ORC	operational range clearance
USD(AT&L)	Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics
UXO	unexploded ordnance

PART II. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this instruction.

incidental use. Infrequent, non-routine use of an operational range, such as once or twice a year.

indoor range. Ranges that are entirely enclosed by walls and a ceiling.

military munitions. Defined in section 101 of Reference (n).

MPPEH. Defined in Reference (j).

munitions debris. Defined in Reference (i).

operational range. Defined in section 101 of Reference (n).

ORC. The destruction or removal and proper disposition of used munitions (e.g., UXO and munitions debris), range-related debris (e.g., target debris and military munitions packaging and crating material), and other debris to maintain or enhance operational range safety or prevent the accumulation of such material from impairing or preventing operational range use. It does not include removal, treatment, or remediation of chemical residues or munitions constituents from environmental media, nor actions to address discarded military munitions on operational ranges.

other debris. Debris found on operational ranges that is not related to munitions or range operations but may be removed to facilitate an ORC, including solid waste (e.g., rebar, household items, automobile parts and automobiles that were not associated with range targets, fence posts, and fence wire).

range-related debris. Defined in Reference (i).

surface clearance. Removal of used munitions (e.g., UXO and munitions debris), range-related debris (e.g., target debris and munitions packaging and crating material), and other debris on the surface (i.e., the top soil layer) only, in which detection process is primarily performed visually, but may be augmented by technology aids (e.g., hand-held magnetometers) because vegetation or other factors make visual detection difficult.

UXO. Defined in section 101 of Reference (n).