

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
POLICY DIRECTIVE 91-1**



**8 JANUARY 2026**

**NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND SYSTEMS  
SURETY**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This directive implements Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 3150.02, *Department of Defense Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*, and Department of Defense Manual (DoDM) 3150.02, *DoD Nuclear Weapon System Safety Program Manual*. It also establishes the Department of the Air Force (DAF) Nuclear Surety Program. This directive provides policies for managing nuclear weapons and weapon systems, and for protecting personnel, property, and the environment from hazardous exposure to radioactive materials. This publication applies to all civilian employees and uniformed members of the Regular Air Force, the Air Force Reserve, the Air National Guard, the United States Space Force, and those with a contractual obligation to abide by the terms of DAF publications. Refer recommended changes and questions about this policy directive to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using the DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route DAF Forms 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction (AFI) 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. This DAF policy directive may not be supplemented.

## ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This document has been updated to reflect current references and modified to conform with recent changes to publication guidelines.

### **1. Policy.**

1.1. The potential destructive power of nuclear weapons is well known, and some radioactive materials pose hazards if not properly controlled. Nuclear systems require special handling and other protective measures to prevent accidents, unauthorized use, dangerous exposure, or improper storage, transportation and disposal.

1.2. Nuclear Weapons Surety, as defined in DoDI 3150.02 and expanded in this document to include specified non-weapons related nuclear hazards, is the centerpiece of the Department of the Air Force Nuclear Enterprise. Department of the Air Force leaders at all levels will provide emphasis to ensure focus remains on nuclear surety. Priority will be to strengthen nuclear surety compliance in accordance with guidance contained in Department of the Air Force publications and technical orders.

1.3. The Department of the Air Force will ensure nuclear weapons and weapon systems receive special attention and consideration because of their political and military importance, their destructive power, and the potential consequences of an accident, unauthorized act, or public perception of such.

1.4. The Department of the Air Force will ensure that personnel, the environment, and property are protected from undue risk of damage or harm by maintaining risks as low as reasonably possible consistent with mission requirements. This policy applies to nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon systems, nuclear energy power and propulsion systems, the lifecycle of all terrestrial reactors, and sources intended for missile or space use. This policy also applies to nuclear technology research, design, development, test and evaluation systems utilizing ionizing radiation materials for development and acquisition of nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon systems, nuclear energy power and propulsion systems, and sources intended for missile or space use. Some of these systems may also be subject to policies of Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 40-2, *Radioactive Materials (Non-Nuclear Weapons)*.

1.5. The Department of the Air Force will carry out Intrinsic Radiation (INRAD) safety program requirements to keep personnel exposures, to intrinsic ionizing radiation from nuclear weapons, as low as reasonably achievable (also known as ALARA) consistent with mission requirements and AFI 91-108, *Air Force Nuclear Weapons Intrinsic Radiation and 91(B) Radioactive Material Safety Program*.

1.6. The Department of the Air Force will establish and conduct programs to maintain surety of nuclear weapons and weapon systems in Department of the Air Force custody, from storage and assembling, testing, transporting, and delivering it on the target. Additionally, the Department of the Air Force will ensure the safety and security of terrestrial reactors the Department of the Air Force owns or operates, all nuclear energy power and propulsion systems, and radioactive sources intended for missile or space use.

### **2. Roles and Responsibilities.**

2.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Energy, Installations, and Environment (SAF/IE) will, in accordance with the Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive (HAFMD) 1-

18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)*, and HAFMD 1-17, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Space Acquisition and Integration)*, provide guidance, direction, and oversight of all matters pertaining to the formulation, review, and execution of policies, plans, programs, and budgets relative to environment, safety, occupational health, radiation safety, and radioactive materials management matters.

2.2. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (SAF/AQ) and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Space Acquisition and Integration (SAF/SQ) provide guidance, direction, and oversight of all matters pertaining to acquisition lifecycle activities on Department of the Air Force nuclear weapons delivery systems and specific non-nuclear component/subsystems as described in DoDD 5000.01, *The Defense Acquisition System*, DoDI 5000.02, *Operation of the Adaptive Acquisition Framework*, AFD 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*, Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 63-101/20-101, *Integrated Life Cycle Management*, and HAFMD 1-10, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition)*.

2.3. The Chief of Safety (AF/SE) will provide guidance, direction, and oversight of all matters pertaining to nuclear surety of all nuclear weapons and weapon systems in the Department of the Air Force's custody, from storage and assembling, testing, transporting, and delivering it on the target. AF/SE will, in accordance with AFD 13-5 coordinate with the Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10) to provide overall supervision of matters pertaining to DAF nuclear surety policy, plans, and programs, consistent with Air Force Mission Directive (AFMD) 44, *Air Force Safety Center*, and HAFMD 1-46, *Chief of Safety*. AF/SE will coordinate with the Air Force Surgeon General (AF/SG) to develop and issue radiological health matters guidance in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6055.08, *Occupational Ionizing Radiation Protection Program*.

2.4. AF/SE will coordinate with AF/SG to develop and issue radiological health matters guidance in accordance with DoDI 6055.08.

2.5. Director of Administration and Management to the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/AM) is the Restricted Data/Formerly Restricted Data Management Official and provides oversight for accountability, training, and provision of accurate guidance for handling, safeguarding, protecting, or releasing nuclear-related information pursuant to DoDI 5210.02, *Access to and Dissemination of Restricted Data and Formerly Restricted Data*.

Troy E. Meink  
Secretary of the Air Force

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

DODD 5000.01, *The Defense Acquisition System*, 9 September 2020

DODI 5000.02, *Operations of the Adaptive Acquisition Framework*, 23 January 2020

DODI 3150.02, *DoD Nuclear Weapons Surety Program*, 17 December 2024

DODI 5210.02, *Access to and Dissemination of Restricted Data and Formerly Restricted Data*, 3 June 2011

DODI 6055.08, *Occupational Ionizing Radiation Protection Program*, 9 April 2021

DODM 3150.02, *DoD Nuclear Weapon System Safety Program Manual*, 31 January 2014

HAFMD 1-10, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition)*, 2 September 2016

HAFMD 1-17, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Space Acquisition and Integration)*, 30 September 2022

HAFMD 1-18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)*, 10 July 2014

AFMD 44, *Air Force Safety Center*, 7 August 2024

AFPD 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*, 17 July 2018

AFPD 40-2, *Radioactive Materials (Non-Nuclear Weapons)*, 19 June 2019

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

DAFI 63-101/20-101, *Integrated Life Cycle Management*, 16 February 2024

AFI 91-108, *Air Force Nuclear Weapons Intrinsic Radiation and 91(B) Radioactive Material Safety Program*, 14 May 2020

***Adopted Forms***

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFMD**—Air Force Mission Directive

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**ALARA**—As Low As Reasonably Achievable

**DAF**—Department of the Air Force

**DAFI**—Department of the Air Force Instruction

**DAFPD**—Department of the Air Force Policy Directive

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DoDD**—Department of Defense Directive

**DoDI**—Department of Defense Instruction

**DoDM**—Department of Defense Manual

**INRAD**—Intrinsic Radiation

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility

### *Office Symbols*

**AF/A10**—Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration

**AF/SE**—Department of the Air Force Chief of Safety

**AF/SG**—Department of the Air Force Surgeon General

**AFSEC/SEW**—Department of the Air Force Weapons Safety Division

**SAF/AM**—Director of Administration and Management to the Secretary of the Air Force

**SAF/AQ**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics

**SAF/IE**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Energy, Installations, and Environment

**SAF/SQ**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Space Acquisition and Integration

### *Terms*

**Nuclear Weapon**—Throughout 91-series publications the term nuclear weapon is applied to multiple configurations of weapon components that consist of at least a nuclear explosive subassembly in its simplest form and in its most complex is a complete assembly (i.e., implosion type, gun type, or thermonuclear type), in its intended ultimate configuration which, upon completion of the prescribed arming, fusing, and firing sequence, is capable of producing the intended nuclear reaction and release of energy.

**Nuclear Weapons Surety**—Policies, procedures, controls, and actions that encompass safety, security, and control measures, which ensure there will be no nuclear weapons accidents, incidents, unauthorized detonation, hazardous exposure of radioactive materials to the environment, or degradation of weapon effectiveness during its Stockpile-to-Target Sequence.

**Nuclear Weapon System**—A nuclear weapon and a means for delivering it to the target, with associated specialized support equipment, facilities, procedures, personnel, and any vehicles peculiar to the system used for weapon transport.