

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Benidxen, 907-271-2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 8, 2003.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 03-20918 Filed 8-14-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary of Defense

#### Establishment of the Defense Advisory Board for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of establishment.

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Advisory Board for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is being established in consonance with the public interest and in accordance with the provisions of Pub. L. 92-463, the "Federal Advisory Committee Act," title 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2. The ESGR will provide advice to the Secretary of Defense about issues concerning Reservists and their civilian employers, to include recommending policies and priorities for employer support actions and programs.

The board will be composed of a national cross-section of industry, public and private sector leaders whose understanding of employer issues, as they are affected by employee membership in the guard and reserve, will serve as a foundation for providing input and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense on guard and reserve employment issues of public and private employers.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Mr. Michael E. Naylon, 703-696-1386.

Dated: August 11, 2003.

**Patricia Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 03-20868 Filed 8-14-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Manual for Courts-Martial; Proposed Amendments

**AGENCY:** Joint Service Committee on Military Justice (JSC).

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Manual for Courts-Martial, United States (2002 ed.) and Notice of Public Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Defense is considering recommending changes to the *Manual for Courts-Martial, United States* (2002 ed.) (MCM). The proposed changes constitute the 2003 annual review required by the MCM and DoD Directive 5500.17, "Role and Responsibilities of the Joint Service Committee (JSC) on Military Justice," May 3, 2003. The proposed changes concern the rules of procedure and evidence and the punitive articles applicable in trials by courts-martial. These proposed changes have not been coordinated within the Department of Defense under DoD Directive 5500.1, "Preparation and Processing of Legislation, Executive Orders, Proclamations, and Reports and Comments Thereon," May 21, 1964, and do not constitute the official position of the Department of Defense, the Military Departments, or any other Government agency.

This notice also sets forth the date, time and location for the public meeting of the JSC to discuss the proposed changes.

This notice is provided in accordance with DoD Directive 5500.17, "Role and Responsibilities of the Joint Service Committee (JSC) on Military Justice," May 3, 2003. This notice is intended only to improve the internal management of the Federal Government. It is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

In accordance with paragraph III.B.4 of the Internal Organization and Operating Procedures of the JSC, the committee also invites members of the

public to suggest changes to the Manual for Courts-Martial in accordance with the described format.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed changes must be received no later than October 31, 2003 to be assured consideration by the JSC. A public meeting will be held on October 1, 2003 at 11 a.m. in Room 808, 1501 Wilson Boulevard, Rosslyn, VA 22209-2403.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the proposed changes should be sent to Lieutenant Commander James Carsten, Office of the Judge Advocate General, 716 Sicard St. SE., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20374-5047.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lieutenant Commander James Carsten, Executive Secretary, Joint Service Committee on Military Justice, Office of the Judge Advocate General, 716 Sicard St. SE., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20374-5047, (202) 685-7298, (202) 685-7687 fax.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed amendments to the MCM are as follows:

Amend the Discussion section of Part I (Preamble) by twice replacing the word "Transportation" with the words "Homeland Security."

Amend Discussion section following R.C.M. 103(19), Definition for 10 U.S.C. 801(1) by replacing the phrase "the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation" with the phrase "an official designated to serve as Judge Advocate General of the Coast Guard by the Secretary of Homeland Security."

[Note: The Secretary of Homeland Security has designated the Chief Counsel, U.S. Coast Guard, to serve as the Judge Advocate General of the Coast Guard.]

Amend R.C.M. 201(e)(2)(B) by adding the word "general" before "courts-martial" and inserting the following at the end thereof:

"assigned or attached to a combatant command or joint command."

Amend R.C.M. 201(e)(2)(C), inserting the phrase "assigned or attached to a joint command or joint task force," immediately before the words "under regulations which the superior command may prescribe."

Amend the Analysis accompanying R.C.M. 201(e)(2) by inserting the following paragraph:

"200 Amendment: Subsections (e)(2)(B) and (C) were revised to clarify that the reciprocal jurisdiction authority of joint commanders designated in either subsections (A), (B), or (C), is limited. This limitation is intended to preclude a joint commander from convening courts upon members who are not assigned or attached to a joint command."