

**CHAPTER 12**  
**DOD NWTI SYSTEM**

**A. GENERAL**

This Chapter issues baseline policy and responsibilities for the DoD NWTI system. NWTIs examine nuclear weapons technical assembly, maintenance, storage functions, logistic movement, handling, and safety and security directly associated with those functions. Commanders use NWTIs as the basis for certifying facilities and organizations for operations with nuclear weapons and weapon systems. Additional guidance and detailed procedures for conducting inspections will be jointly developed by the Services and the DSWA and prescribed in JNWPS TP 25-1 (reference (i)). The guidance and procedures will be coordinated with the ATSD(NCB) and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**B. INSPECTION POLICY AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. The Services and DSWA shall conduct all NWTIs to ensure compliance with pertinent DoD, Joint, and applicable Service requirements.

2. Inspections shall be conducted on all units that store, assemble, maintain, or transport nuclear weapons. Services shall provide a list of units meeting those requirements to the DSWA at the beginning of each fiscal year and as changes occur.

a. The Services will inspect at intervals of their choosing, but not to exceed 18 months between inspections. The Services may conduct limited notice inspections, as necessary.

b. DSWA will inspect designated nuclear units at intervals specified by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Currently, 20 to 25 percent, as required to, ease efficient scheduling, of the units will be inspected each year. Services may designate additional units.

3. Inspections will evaluate the unit's management and administration; technical operations; tools, test, tiedown, and handling equipment; storage and maintenance facilities and condition of the stockpile; security; safety; supply support; nuclear weapon PRP; logistics transport; and special subjects. The Services may amplify the scope of inspections to meet additional requirements.

4. All DoD Components shall periodically review the NWTI system for adequacy and to identify necessary improvements.

5. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall sponsor symposia, as required to resolve issues associated with the NWTI system.

6. The DSWA maybe tasked by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to evaluate special interest topics that may or may not be consistent with the scope of NWTIs. The DSWA and other DoD Components may also propose special interest topics. Those topics will be coordinated with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff before submitting to the DSWA. DSWA will notify the Services of special interest items to be evaluated before inspection.

7. Nuclear bombs and warheads may be used for the technical operations portion of the NWTI when not specifically prohibited, but only if they are due for inspection, test, maintenance,

or modification or retrofit at a time approximately coincident with the NWTI. Technical operations on war reserve bombs and warheads other than those due at the time of the inspection are prohibited.

**8. Training weapons shall be used for the following:**

**a. All certification and recertification inspections, except as noted in subsection B.7., above.**

**b. All operations that are forbidden for war reserve weapons by safety rules, the Department of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Service, or major command publications.**

**9. Issues which may arise involving interpretation or clarification of national level policy (the Department of Defense or the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff) may be submitted by the Service or the DSWA to the Joint Staff, ATTN: J-38, for clarification.**