National Military Strategy

Precision Strike Association

Winter Roundtable

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Overview

• Background
  – Broad Functions of the National Military Strategy (NMS)

• Context for the NMS
  – 2001 Quadrennial Defense Review
  – 21st Century Security Environment
  – President’s National Security Strategy

• Developing the NMS
  – Emerging Themes
  – Focusing on CJCS Priorities
  – Deriving Implications
  – Mission of the Armed Forces
FY 04 NDAA – Directing the Development of an NMS

• Biennial National Military Strategy (NMS) report due on 15 Feb that includes:
  – A description of the strategic environment.
  – A description of regional threats.
  – A description of transnational and non-state threats.
  – Identification of national military objectives and their relationship to the strategic environment and threats.
  – Identification of the strategy, concepts, and elements that contribute to the achievement of the national military objectives.
  – An assessment of the capabilities and adequacy of US forces to execute the NMS.
  – An assessment of the capabilities, adequacy, and interoperability of regional allies to support US forces in combat and other operations.
  – An assessment of the resources, basing requirements, and support structure needed to achieve national military objectives.

• Based on the prescribed military strategy, provide an assessment of the strategic and military risks associated with executing the NMS.
Broad Functions of the NMS

• Link strategic guidance to operational warfighting.
  – Describe the military plan to achieve Defense Strategy objectives.
  – Incorporate CJCS priorities.
  – Identify specific military missions, supporting objectives, employment concepts, and military capabilities for Combatant Commands and Services.

• Incorporate military implications of the strategic environment.
  – Lessons learned in the War on Terrorism.
  – Security trends in key regions.
  – Ongoing studies in the Department.
  – Growing stress on current force structure.

• Assess capabilities and risks in executing the strategy.
  – Mitigation measures – force management, operational, institutional and future challenges.

• Provide military context for programming and planning.
  – Strategic Planning Guidance.
  – Contingency Planning Guidance.
Defense Policy Goals

- **Assure** allies and friends of US steadiness of purpose and capability to fulfill its security commitments;
- **Dissuade** adversaries from undertaking programs or operations that could threaten US interests or those of our allies and friends;
- **Deter** aggression and coercion by deploying forward the capacity to swiftly defeat attacks and impose severe penalties for aggression on an adversary’s military capability and supporting infrastructure; and
- **Decisively defeat** any adversary if deterrence fails.

Force Planning Construct

- **Defend the United States**
- Deter Forward
  - **4 Critical Regions**
  - Southwest Asia
  - Northeast Asia
  - East Asian Littoral
  - Europe
- Swiftly Defeat the Efforts
  - 1
  - 2
- Win
  - Decisively
- Smaller Scale Contingencies
- Force Generation Capability
- Strategic Reserve

Use A Capabilities-Based Approach To Realign US Global Posture and Transform the Force
The most dangerous circumstances are those where we will be challenged in multiple areas.

- More actors of strategic significance
  - bin Laden
  - Mohammed Atta
  - Kim Jung II

- Wide proliferation of dangerous capabilities and technologies
  - WMD
  - Ballistic Missiles

- Asymmetric and indirect methods
  - Terrorism
  - Biohazard
  - Computer Network Attacks
  - Rogue State Militaries

21st Century Security Environment
President’s National Security Strategy

• “The aim of this strategy is to help make the world not just safer, but better.”
  • Champion aspirations for human dignity.
  • Strengthen alliances to defeat global terrorism and work to prevent attacks against us and our friends.
  • Work with others to diffuse regional conflicts.
  • Prevent our enemies from threatening us, our allies, and our friends with weapons of mass destruction.
  • Ignite a new era of global economic growth through free markets and free trade.
  • Expand the circle of development by opening societies and building the infrastructure of democracy.
  • Develop agendas for cooperative action with other main centers of global power.
  • Transform America’s national security institutions to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.
Emerging Themes

• A “Nation at War”.
  – Long-term fight.
  – Diverse threats – more adaptive and dangerous adversaries.
  – Potential for mass effects.

• Sustained operations across the conflict spectrum.
  – Military contributions to national efforts.
  – Help create a more secure and stable environment.
  – Offensive, defensive and anticipatory activities.
  – Wider range of options prior to, during and post-conflict.

• Adjustments to US global military posture and basing.
  – Key to preventing future conflict.
  – Sustain and create security relationships.
  – Improve flexibility and responsiveness.
  – Preclude catastrophic attacks.
  – Enhance the ability of US partners.
Focusing on CJCS Priorities

• Win the War on Terrorism (WOT) and Combat WMD.
  – Protect our nation and its citizens.
  – Build, maintain, and sustain military coalitions.
  – Actively take the fight to terrorists; attack leadership and support structures.
  – Secure the peace in Iraq & Afghanistan.
  – Help create an anti-terrorism global environment.

• Enhance Joint Warfighting.
  – Improve training, education and exercises.
  – Create closer relationships with interagency and multinational partners.

• Transform the Force.
  – Spread transformation across DOTMLPF and the Joint Force.
  – Synchronize and support service transformation efforts.
  – Guide and synchronize JFCOM experimentation efforts.
  – Reconfigure the force to deploy forward rapidly with more modular capabilities.
Deriving Implications

• New approaches to:
  • Deterrence and conflict prevention.
  • Defending against and defeating dangerous actors.
  • Denying technology and dangerous capabilities.
  • Interagency integration.
  • Force design and size.
  • Transformation.

• Guiding principles for force employment:
  • **Agility** to respond to widely dispersed and rapidly changing crises.
  • **Decisiveness** in operations across the full range of military operations to achieve conclusive and enduring outcomes.
  • **Integration** of all elements of national and international power.
• The mission of the Armed Forces and supporting objectives:
  
  – **Protect** – Creating an active defense-in-depth that begins overseas.
  
  – **Prevent** – Action before, during and after crises to avert conflict and, when necessary, preempt threats before they are fully realized.
  
  – **Prevail** – Applying military capabilities in concert with other instruments of power to create a durable and sustainable peace.
Questions?