2015 National Military Strategy

Strategy Development Division
Deputy Directorate for Joint Strategic Planning
Joint Staff J-5 (Strategic Plans & Policy)
State and Non-State Challenges

Russian Federation
- Undermining regional security
- Transactional cooperation
- Violating agreements and treaties

People’s Republic of China
- Tension in Asia-Pacific
- Aggressive land reclamation

Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
- Nuclear program
- Recent cyber attacks

Islamic Republic of Iran
- Ballistic missiles
- State sponsor of terrorism
- Nuclear ambitions

Violent Extremists (ISIL, AQ)
- Undermine MENA stability
- Radicalizing populations
- Spreading violence
- Strongest where governments are weakest

The U.S. military does not have the luxury of focusing on one challenge to the exclusion of others.
**State Conflict:**
Employs large-scale military force and sophisticated military technologies across multiple domains to defeat the enemy. May include use of WMD, anti-access/area denial systems, global strike systems, undersea platforms, advanced cyber tools, and counter-space systems, among other capabilities.

**Hybrid Conflict:**
Blends conventional and irregular forces to create ambiguity, seize the initiative, and paralyze the adversary. May include use of both traditional military and asymmetric systems.

**Non-State Conflict:**
Employs small units and networks to undermine governments and gain control over populations. May include use of IEDs, small arms, propaganda, and terror.
How Should the Force Balance?

The U.S. must play 3 simultaneous chess games with one set of pieces

“Advancing interests through competition with a military dimension that falls short of traditional armed conflict and the threshold for a traditional military response.”

--CJCS Posture Testimony, 2/25/16
Enduring National Interests

- Security of US, citizens, allies, and partners
- Strong, innovative, growing economy in an open international system that promotes opportunity and prosperity
- Respect for universal Values at home and around the world
- A rules-based international order advanced by U.S. leadership that promotes peace, security, and opportunity through stronger cooperation to meet global challenges

Central Ideas

- Lead with purpose (Enduring National Interests)
- Lead with strength (realize strengths)
- Lead by example (practice what we preach)
- Lead with capable partners (collective action)
- Lead with all instruments of U.S. power (military not first option)
- Lead with a long-term perspective (influence transitions): power shifts among, below and beyond states; interdependence of the global economy; struggle for power in MENA; and the global energy market flux

Three pillars

- Protect the homeland
- Build security globally
- Project power and win decisively

Protect key capabilities

- Cyber
- Missile Defense
- Nuclear deterrence
- Space
- Precision strike
- Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)
- Counterterrorism and Special Operations

Force Planning Construct

- U.S. forces must be able to simultaneously defend the homeland; conduct sustained, distributed counter-terrorist operations; and in multiple regions, deter aggression and assure allies through forward presence and engagement

- If deterrence fails, U.S. forces could:
  - Defeat a regional adversary in a large-scale, multi-phased campaign, and,
  - Deny the objectives of, or impose unacceptable costs on, an opportunistic aggressor in another region
**National Security Interests**

- The survival of the nation.
- The prevention of catastrophic attack against U.S. territory.
- The security of the global economic system.
- The security, confidence, and reliability of our allies.
- The protection of American citizens abroad.
- The preservation and extension of universal values.

**To secure these interests, we must pursue these national military objectives (NMOs)...**

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**DETER, DENY, AND DEFEAT STATE ADVERSARIES**

**DETER**
- Maintain credible nuclear capability
- Conduct forward engagement
- Maintain a ready AC/RC force

**DENY**
- Maintain highly-ready forward and surge forces
- Resilient logistics/transportation infrastructures
- Networked intelligence
- Strong communication links

**DEFEAT**
- Project power across all domains
- Compel adversary to cease hostility or render it incapable of further aggression
- Would require full mobilization of all instruments of national power

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**DISRUPT, DEGRADE, AND DEFEAT VEOS**

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- Lead a broad coalition
- Apply pressure across full extent of VEO networks
- Conduct in concert with all elements of national power and international partnerships
- Leverage and globally integrated C2
- Contribute select combat forces, enabling technologies, and training in support of local partners that provide the majority of forces necessary
- Address root causes of conflict in close coordination with U.S. Interagency

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**STRENGTHEN OUR GLOBAL NETWORK OF ALLIES AND PARTNERS**

- Preserve alliances and expand partnerships
- Conduct training, exercises, and security cooperation activities
- Continue rebalance to Asia-Pacific
- Steadfast commitment to NATO
- Committed to Israel’s security
- Conduct combined training to enhance interoperability and responsiveness
- Emphasize sophisticated capabilities with advanced allies
Achieving the Objectives

JOINT FORCE PRIORITIZED MISSIONS

• Maintain a secure and effective nuclear deterrent
• Provide for the military defense of the homeland
• Defeat an adversary
• Provide a global stabilizing presence
• Combat terrorism
• Counter weapons of mass destruction
• Deny an adversary’s objectives
• Respond to crisis and conduct limited contingency operations
• Conduct military engagement and security cooperation activities
• Conduct stability and counterinsurgency operations
• Provide support to civil authorities
• Conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response
Joint Force Initiatives

- Prioritize Leader Development
- Adapt Organizational Culture
- Promote Ethical Leadership

- Conduct Resource Informed Planning
- Improved Global Agility
- Demand Efficiency of Organizations & Practices

- Improve Joint Interoperability
- Invest to Enhance Decisive Advantages
Questions?