

Presidential Memorandum—Rebuilding the U.S. Armed Forces

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SUBJECT: REBUILDING THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including my authority as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, I hereby direct the following:

Section 1. Policy. It shall be the policy of the United States to pursue Peace Through Strength.

Sec. 2. Readiness. (a) The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a 30-day review (Readiness Review). The Readiness Review shall:

- (i) assess readiness conditions based on operational and contingency requirements, including manning, training, equipping, maintenance, munitions, and infrastructure concerns; and with respect to prosecuting the fight against ISIS, other forms of radical Islamic terror, and all existing threats; executing operational plans against near peer competitors and regional challengers; and supporting long-term presidential goals; and
  - (ii) review all Department of Defense (DoD) components with the objective of reducing commitments not directly related to the highest priority operations, in order to make resources available for training and maintenance;
  - (ii) report actions that can be implemented within the current fiscal year and are necessary to improve readiness conditions.
- (b) In parallel with the Readiness Review, the Secretary of Defense, together with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), shall develop a Military Readiness Emergency Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017.
- (c) The Secretary of Defense shall work with the Director of OMB to set new levels for DoD's appropriations requests for the FY 2018–22 Future Years Defense Plan (FYDP).
- (i) The Secretary of Defense shall revise the FY 2018 budget request in line with DoD's new budget authority within 90 days.

Sec. 3. Rebuilding the U.S. Military. (a) Pursuant to a revised National Security Strategy, the Secretary of Defense shall produce a National Defense Strategy (NDS) by January 2018. The NDS shall establish new direction on force planning, programming, and resource allocation. The goal of the NDS shall be to provide the President and the Secretary of Defense options and maximum strategic flexibility to meet current and future challenges and to strengthen force structure goals necessary to meet future force planning requirements. The NDS shall also include:

(i) a new Nuclear Posture Review to ensure that: the U.S. nuclear triad is modern, robust, flexible, resilient, and appropriately tailored to deter 21st -century threats and reassure our allies and partners, and achieve Presidential objectives should deterrence fail. Additionally, U.S. nuclear planning guidance must adequately address 21st Century needs; and U.S. nuclear infrastructure must be sufficiently agile, flexible, and responsive to ensure its ability to support deterrence and extended deterrence needs into the indefinite future.

(ii) a new Missile Defeat Defense Review to help determine homeland and theater missile defense priorities, identify ways of strengthening ballistic missile, cruise missile, and hypersonic weapon defense capabilities, integrate missile defense policy planning into strategic planning, and identify priority funding areas.

(iii) a plan to achieve readiness objectives prior to 2022. The plan of action shall address areas for improvement, including: manpower and specific specialty shortfalls (e.g. special operations forces, cyber mission forces, naval expeditionary forces); high demand / low density (HD/LD) capability shortfalls (e.g. missile defense systems, airborne command and control systems, personnel recovery assets); inadequate training ranges and access to training ranges;; delays in acquiring end items and parts; delays in depot level maintenance; key munitions shortfalls; funding needed for consumables (e.g., fuel, munitions, parts), ); and rationale for operational and contingency demands levied by combatant commands.

Sec. 4. General Provisions. (a) This memorandum shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(b) Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to any executive department or agency, or any head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of OMB relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(c) All actions taken pursuant to this memorandum shall be consistent with requirements and authorities to protect intelligence and law enforcement sources and methods. Nothing in this order shall be interpreted to supersede measures established under authority of law to protect the security and integrity of specific activities and associations that are in direct support of intelligence and law enforcement operations.

(d) This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

(e) The Secretary of Defense is hereby authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

Donald J. Trump  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
January \_\_, 2017