



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 3050.27  
N81  
12 Feb 2015

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3050.27

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: FORCE STRUCTURE ASSESSMENTS

Encl: (1) Force Structure Analysis Methodology

1. Purpose. To define and implement a comprehensive approach to the conduct of force structure assessments.

2. Scope and Applicability. The provisions of this instruction are applicable to force structure assessments conducted by the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO).

3. Background

a. Force structure assessments determine long-term Navy force structure objectives to support a global posture of distributed mission-tailored ships, aircraft, and units capable of regionally concentrated combat operations and peacetime theater security cooperation efforts. Force structure assessments are informed by:

(1) National, Department of Defense and Navy strategic guidance;

(2) Combatant commander (CCDR) theater campaign plans;

(3) Warfighting requirements of approved defense planning scenarios or CNO directed metrics;

(4) Ship and aircraft strategic laydown; and

(5) Operating concepts to include employment cycles, crewing constructs and operating tempo (OPTEMPO) limits.

b. Navy force structure objectives must meet peacetime presence, warfighting capability and response time requirements at risk levels that do not jeopardize campaign success. The

objective force structure must also provide sufficient rotation base to sustain global posture indefinitely without jeopardizing service lives of platforms or retention of personnel. Finally, the results of the force structure assessment set the long-term force structure goals of the 30-year shipbuilding and aviation plans.

c. The Director, Assessment Division (OPNAV N81), is the executive agent and lead for force structure assessments.

#### 4. Action

a. OPNAV N81 will conduct a force structure assessment when directed or when changes to any of the following occur:

(1) Strategic guidance, resulting in changes to theater campaign plans or warfighting scenarios;

(2) Strategic laydown of ships and aircraft that affect sustainable peacetime presence or warfighting response timelines;

(3) Operating concepts to include employment cycles, crewing constructs or OPTEMPO limits that affect sustainable peacetime presence or warfighting response timelines; and/or

(4) Assigned missions that affect the type or quantity of force elements.

b. Depending on the scope of the changes, a full force structure assessment, to include global maritime security analysis of theater campaign plans and campaign analysis of new warfighting scenarios, may be required. If the scope of changes is limited, however, an update to the previous force structure assessment for affected components may be sufficient.

5. Methodology. Components of the process are illustrated in enclosure (1) and include:

a. Strategic Guidance. Review current national, Department of Defense and Navy strategic guidance to identify priorities, missions, objectives and principles that Navy force structure must meet.

b. Global Maritime Security Campaign Analysis. Identify the steady-state demand for maritime security and security force assistance activities.

(1) Develop list of operational tasks, capabilities and metrics based on required operational capability and projected operational environment documents to describe the full range of possible missions that could be assigned to force structure elements.

(2) Conduct interviews with CCDR staffs to determine mission level capacity and capability needed to execute steady state activities in support of theater campaign plans.

c. Force Optimization Analysis. Identify the force options that can satisfy the steady-state demands for activities required by the CCDR theater campaign plans.

(1) Map CCDR-defined capability requirements to platforms and units.

(2) Produce alternate force structure mixes that meet capability demands.

(3) Analyze force structure alternatives and adjudicate platform and unit substitutions.

(4) Identify least cost force to source steady state demand.

d. Presence Requirement. Force optimization analysis produces day-to-day global posture required to accomplish CCDR assigned phase 0 and steady-state tasks. The next step is to determine the impact of warfighting response requirements on that steady state posture.

e. Warfighting Campaign Analysis. Model and assess the ability of the force to fight and win approved Department of Defense scenarios.

(1) Identify force planning and force sizing constructs for warfighting response from guidance.

(2) Analyze directed campaigns and campaign sequences to determine most stressing campaign for each force element.

(3) Determine initial warfighting response requirements and adjust steady state posture as necessary.

(4) Identify arrival timelines and peak capacity of follow on forces to achieve campaign objectives.

f. Global Posture. Calculate the minimum number and global posture of each force element required to meet steady state presence demands and warfighting response timelines. Variables include:

(1) OPTEMPO guidelines that ensure training and retention of personnel are not jeopardized;

(2) Employment cycles that enable platforms to achieve expected service lives;

(3) Crewing constructs - and specifically rotational crewing - when determining presence delivered and surge provided; and

(4) A strategic laydown that provides presence efficiently and meets joint force campaign timelines.

g. Additional Studies. Specific force elements may require additional study beyond the global maritime security and warfighting campaign analyses. OPNAV N81 will use Center for Naval Analyses, fleet, resource sponsor and in-house data, studies and analyses, including pertinent analysis of alternatives or integrated analytic agenda studies, to provide the data needed to determine force structure objectives.

6. Coordination. OPNAV N81 will conduct force structure assessments in collaboration with Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command; Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Director, Programming Division (OPNAV N80); Director, Strategy and Policy Division (OPNAV N51); resource sponsors; and other cognizant commands. Force structure assessment results are submitted to CNO for approval and disseminated as CNO directs. Approved force structure assessments also serve as the objective of 30-year shipbuilding and aviation plans.

7. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

8. Reports Control. The identified reporting requirements in subparagraphs 5b through 5h are exempt from report controls per part IV, subparagraph 7h, of SECNAV Manual 5214.1 of December 2005. Any unidentified reporting requirements generated from subparagraph 5g shall be reviewed by Department of the Navy information management control officer (formerly reports control manager).



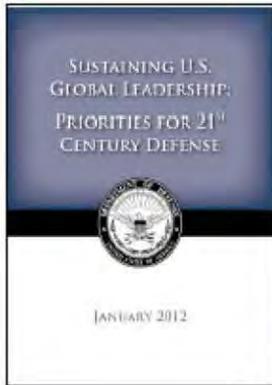
S. H. SWIFT  
Director, Navy Staff

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# Force Structure Analysis

Methodology



Combatant Commander global maritime security demand inputs for mission-level capacity & capability

Force Optimization Analysis by Theater

Force structure needed to support strategy with risk

Global posture plus sustainable rotation/surge base

Warfighting campaign analysis of conventional conflict

Navy global day-to-day posture needed for assigned tasks

  
**OPTEMPO Guidelines**

  
**Employment Cycle**

  
**Rotational Crewing**

  
**Strategic Laydown**

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Enclosure (1)