Mark Your Calendars: USMC SIGINT Day

On April 11, AOC Advocacy’s SIGINT Industry Partnership Project (IPP) will hold its first USMC SIGINT Day, featuring a congressional panel discussion entitled “Winning the EMS: Assessing the Future of USMC SIGINT,” from 8:30-10:00 AM in 2168 Rayburn House Office Building. Congressman Paul Cook (Col., USMC Ret.), representative of the 8th District of California, is the honorary host. His congressional district includes the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center and the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command at Twentynine Palms, and he is a member of House Armed Services Committee. The event will bring together senior leaders from the US Marine Corps (USMC) to share perspectives and discuss developments in Information Warfare and the integration of Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), Electronic Warfare (EW), and Cyberspace Operations (CO). The following USMC senior leaders are invited:

• Mr. D. Guy Jordan, Assistant Director for Intelligence, Headquarters, USMC (confirmed)
• BGen (Select) Melvin Carter, JSOC J2
• Col Randolph Pugh, Commanding Officer, USMC Intel Schools (confirmed)
• Col Donald McDaniel, Portfolio Manager, Command Element Systems, USMC
• MGySgt Scott H. Stalker, Senior Enlisted Leader, National Security Agency (NSA)

Immediately following the panel discussion, the SIGINT IPP will hold an Industry Solutions Forum to provide attendees, and military and government leaders the opportunity to see first-hand what industry can offer to advance the SIGINT capability and technology requirements of the USMC. This ISF will be held in the Rayburn Foyer until 2:00pm. The congressional panel discussion and the ISF each meet the criteria for a “widely-attended event.”

The USMC recognizes the predominant role of information in every future conflict. It continues to modernize its EW capabilities for expeditionary maritime operations and prepare the MAGTF to maneuver in complex information environments. We look forward to showcasing how the USMC is preparing its force for victory in today’s dynamic threat environment, which is fueling new operational concepts, EMS capabilities and processes to demonstrate EMS Control.

To join the SIGINT IPP and showcase your capabilities at this event, please contact Ken Miller (kmiller@crows.org).

To register to attend the panel discussion, please go here and contact Amanda Crowe (crowe@crows.org) with any questions.
Surprise! Congress Doesn’t Like the President’s Budget

Earlier this month the President formally submitted his budget proposal to Congress, thereby officially kicking off the FY 2020 budget cycle. Due to the lingering FY 2019 budget debate over border wall funding and subsequent 35-day shutdown that carried on until the end of January, the budget was submitted several weeks later than normal.

Typically, the President sends a budget proposal to Congress on or around the first Monday in February. Only 5 out of the last 20 years did the President not submit his budget before the calendar turned to March, including 4 out of the last 7 years. Still, for the 230th consecutive year, the President’s budget was declared Dead on Arrival in Congress. That said, the reality is that the DOA label applies more to major priorities, as the bulk of agency program funding will remain intact through the congressional budget process, especially (and historically) funding for most EW-related programs.

The FY 2020 request assumes that there will be a new budget cap agreement governing the next couple of years. The President proposes $718.3 billion for defense, including $165 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding. Overall, this is approximately $33 billion more than FY 2019 and a 4.9 percent increase. OCO notwithstanding, the budget proposal provides $553.3 billion in base funding. Many political pundits decry the use of “budget gimmicks,” such as using OCO, which is not subject to the Budget Control Act (BCA) spending caps, for base defense spending. Such attempts to get around spending caps are rarely a good idea, especially in years when there is a $96 billion increase in OCO coinciding with a drawdown in overseas operations. However, there’s a bit more to the story.

In 2018, Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act that revised BCA Caps for FY 2019.
Surprise! Congress Doesn’t Like the President’s Budget (cont)

2018-2019. The FY 2019 budget cap for defense spending was increased to $647 billion, which was $85 billion more than the original BCA. However, the 2018 budget bill does not govern FY 2020-2021, which means if Congress sits on its hands, defense spending reverts to the original BCA cap of $576 billion, which would effectively result in $71 billion cut from FY 2019. This would significantly hurt our military and destabilize the defense industrial base. Congress will likely pass a new budget deal to govern the remaining years of President Trump’s first term, but it’s not a forgone conclusion. New House Armed Service Committee (HASC) Chairman, Adam Smith (D-WA), has indicated over the years that he is more inclined toward controlling the growth of defense budgets than his predecessor, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX), now the Ranking Member on HASC. The lack of a preexisting budget agreement for FY 2020 in today’s political climate creates much more uncertainty than the last couple years.

Furthermore, if Congress cannot reach a budget deal and passes a continuing Continuing Resolution, which maintains prior year funding levels, the number would exceed the BCA caps. For this reason, it is important to note that the President’s FY 2020 defense base funding proposal (not including OCO) comes in at $553.3 billion, $22 billion UNDER the BCA cap. The additional base funding identified in OCO therefore sets a pseudo-spending blueprint for what the President may want under a new budget deal.

The important thing to remember throughout the upcoming congressional defense budget process is that most of the $553.3 billion base defense proposal will remain largely intact for EW-related programs with most changes occurring to major acquisition programs. Depending upon a new budget deal level and base funding priorities that shift from OCO under a revised cap are hard to gauge this early in the process. There will not likely be progress towards a new budget deal or top-line defense budget for a few months.

ICYMI: In February, the “Navy Cryptologic & Cyber Warfare Community Vision” was released. This document shows how this team of warfighters view themselves, the top Naval professionals in SIGINT, CO, and EW.
An Early Look Inside the FY 2020 Defense Budget Proposal

The President's FY 2020 budget that was delivered to Congress proposes $718.3 billion for defense, but only $553.3 billion in base funding against the Budget Control Act cap of $576 billion. The remaining $165 billion is designated as Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding, which is "off-budget" and doesn’t count toward the BCA cap.

There are a number of noteworthy funding provisions in the budget proposal. According to Bloomberg Government, the proposed defense budget includes $208 million for the Defense Department’s Joint Artificial Intelligence Center and creates a new combatant command, the US Space Command. In terms of program funding, the budget plan includes the following:

**Procurement**

- $115.4 million for the Army’s Multi-Sensor ABN Reconnaissance Aircraft (including $80.3 million in OCO).
- $52.3 million for Army Aircraft Survivability Equipment
- $144.2 million for the Army's Common Missile Warning System (including $130.2 million in OCO)
- $178 million for the Army’s Common Infrared Countermeasure (CIRCM) program (including $9.3 million in OCO)
- $7.6 million for the Army’s EW Planning Management Tool (EWPMT)
- $44.5 million for Navy AEA modifications
- $166.2 million for the Navy’s Common ECM Equipment
- $26.5 million for US Marine Corps MAGTF EW for Aviation
- $420.2 million for the AN/SLQ 32, also known as the Surface EW Improvement Program (SEWIP)
- $110.8 million for the EC-130 Compass Call recapitalization

**RDT&E**

For RDT&E, the AOC is tracking over 500 relevant activities. Following is a look at some programs that saw an increase in funding in FY 2020:
An Early Look Inside the FY 2020 Defense Budget Proposal (cont)

- $450.3 million for the Navy’s Next Generation Jammer (NGJ)
- $109.3 million for the USAF’s B-52 Radar Modernization Program
- $69.5 million for USAF’s F-15 radar modernization
- $57.2 million for the Navy’s Surface Navy Laser Weapons System (SNLWS)
- $48.6 million for Navy Tactical Air EW
- $41.6 million for Army Multi-Function EW
- $23.5 million for the Army’s EW PMT
- $29.6 million for USAF EW Ground Test Resources
- $43.5 million for the Navy’s Electromagnetic Systems Applied Research

This list is far from comprehensive. It is meant to convey in a small way the diversity of investment. In the coming weeks, the AOC will gather disseminate much more data on program funding in the budget proposal and track major developments and changes through the congressional defense budget process.

Timeline of Reports Mandated in FY19 NDAA Sec. 1053

In the FY 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Section 1053 called for guidance on the electronic warfare mission area and joint electromagnetic spectrum operations. This involves the creation and delivery of various reports to Congress. Below is the timeline and description of reports as mandated by the FY19 NDAA, and if the DOD has not kept to the deadlines, when they expect to have the reports ready.

NDAA MANDATE: Released with the President’s budget each year through 2024

- Report on DOD EW Strategy (as described in FY10 NDAA Sec. 1053)
  - A description and overview of the electronic warfare strategy of the DOD; how such strategy supports the NDS; and the organizational structure assigned to oversee the development of the DOD’s EW strategy, requirements, capabilities, programs, and projects.
  - A list of all the EW acquisition programs and research and development projects of the
Timeline of Reports Mandated in FY19 NDAA Sec. 1053 (cont)

DOD and a description of how each program or project supports the DOD EW strategy

- For each unclassified or project on the list required in paragraph 2 (above), the senior acquisition executive and organization responsible for the oversight of the program or project; whether or not validated requirements exist for the program or project and, if such requirements do exist, the date on which the requirements were validated and the organizational authority that validated such requirements; the total amount of funding appropriated, obligated, and forecasted by fiscal year for the program or project, including the program element or procurement line number from which the program or project receives funding; the development or procurement schedule for the program or project; an assessment of the cost, schedule, and performance of the program or project as it relates to the program baseline for the program or project, as of the date of the submission of the report, and the original program baseline for such program or project, if such baselines are not the same; the technology readiness level of each critical technology that is part of the program or project; whether or not the program or project is redundant or overlaps with the efforts of another military department; and the capability gap that the program or project is being development or procured to fulfill.

- A classified annex that contains the items described in paragraph 3 for each classified program or project on the list required by paragraph 2.

- A ssessment by DSO on whether sufficient funds are requested for development of EMBM capability for JEMSO and the establishment and operation of associated JEMSO cells

NDAA MANDATE: No later than February 9, 2019 (and every two years after).

DOD RESPONSE: SEPTEMBER-ISH 2019

- Update DOD EW Strategy to include CFT roadmap
- Submit updated strategy to congressional defense committees

No later than May 10, 2019

Secretary of Defense submits to congressional defense committees (in consultation with DIA):
Timeline of Reports Mandated in FY19 NDAA Sec. 1053 (cont)

- Comprehensive assessments of the electronic warfare capabilities of the Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of China, which shall include: electronic warfare doctrine; order of battle on land, sea, air, space, and cyberspace; and expected direction of technology and research over the next 10 years.
- A review of vulnerabilities with respect to electronic systems, such as the Global Positioning System, and Department-wide abilities to conduct countermeasures in response to electronic warfare attacks.

**NDAA MANDATE:** No later than August 13, 2019 (and every 180 days later for 3 years).

**DOD RESPONSE:** DECEMBER-ISH (Due to original report being pushed back to Sept)

**DSO submits a report to congressional defense committees on:**

- An accounting of the efforts undertaken in support of the strategy referred to in paragraph (2) (A) and to implement applicable elements of Department of Defense Directive 3222.04, dated May 10, 2017, or any subsequent updates to such directive.
- A description of any updates or changes to the strategy since its issuance, and a description of any anticipated updates or changes to the strategy as a result of the designation of the designated senior official.
- An assessment of the capability of joint forces to conduct joint electromagnetic spectrum operations against near-peer adversaries and any capability or capacity gaps in such capability that need to be addressed, including an assessment of the ability of joint forces to conduct coordinated military operations to exploit, attack, protect, and manage the electromagnetic environment in the signals intelligence, electronic warfare, and spectrum management mission areas, including the capability to conduct integrated cyber and electronic warfare on the battlefield, for all level 3 and level 4 contingency plans (as such plans are described in Joint Publication 5-0 of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, entitled “Joint Planning” and dated June 16, 2017).
- A review of the roles and functions of offices within the Joint Staff, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the combatant commands with primary responsibility for joint electromagnetic spectrum policy and operations.
- A description of any assumptions about the roles and contributions of the Department, in coordination with other departments and agencies of the United States Government, with respect to the strategy.
Timeline of Reports Mandated in FY19 NDAA Sec. 1053 (cont)

- A description of actions, performance metrics, and projected timelines for achieving key capabilities for electronic warfare and joint electromagnetic spectrum operations to correspond to the thematic goals identified in the strategy and as addressed by the roadmap.
- An analysis of any personnel, resourcing, capability, authority, or other gaps to be addressed in order to ensure effective implementation of the strategy across all relevant elements of the Department, including an update on each of the following: The development of an electromagnetic battle management capability for joint electromagnetic spectrum operations, The establishment and operation of joint electromagnetic spectrum operations cells at combatant command locations, the integration and synchronization of cyber and electromagnetic activities, and an investment framework and projected timeline for addressing any gaps found in the above.
- A review of the sufficiency of experimentation, testing, and training infrastructure, ranges, instrumentation, and threat simulators required to support the development of electromagnetic spectrum capabilities.
- A plan, and the estimated cost and schedule of implementing the plan, to conduct joint campaign modeling and wargaming for joint electromagnetic spectrum operations.
- Any other matters as the Secretary considers appropriate.