



# ASSOCIATION OF OLD CROWS ADVOCACY NEWSLETTER

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## Military Committee and Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach on NATO 2030 Proposals

*by Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach & Tala Alshaboot, Research Assistant, Advocacy and Outreach*

Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Sir Stuart Peach, the Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, praised NATO's ability to progress and adapt to stay as an effective deterrent force at the Meeting of Alliance Chiefs of Defense in Brussels. ACM Peach stated that the meeting involved discussions on NATO 2030, an initiative that emphasizes the importance of guaranteeing that the NATO alliance remains ready to deal with the challenges of today and tomorrow. According to NATO, these include Russia's aggressive actions, the threat of terrorism, cyber-attacks, emerging and disruptive technologies, the security impact of climate change, and the rise of China.

According to a report from DOD News, ACM Peach cited Russia as the main threat that needs NATO's focus. "We have strengthened our military posture from the Baltic to the Black Sea," Peach said. He highlighted the need to "reduce vulnerabilities stemming from foreign ownership, coercion, or manipulation" on the emergence of China and their impact on the alliance.

ACM Peach's message was similar to his message to AOC during our [AOC Discussions](#) series in January. At that event, he noted that NATO faces the most complex and unpredictable security situation in its history. The aggressive actions of both state and non-state actors, in combination with rapid advances in technology across commercial and military sectors, are challenging NATO in ways it has never seen before and across all warfighting domains. In particular, he told the discussion attendees that a vital attribute of the EW threat facing NATO is that EW technology itself has a low cost of entry. It represents asymmetrical capabilities and can cripple a nation's military ambitions due to its inherent ease of acquisition and efficient use. EW is evolving rapidly due to underlying low-cost commercial technologies such as antenna designs, microwave transceivers, and high gain amplifiers. This democratization of EW technology allows for access, fielding, and integration into almost any military system. NATO is closely monitoring and actively responding to this new reality. It is now indisputable that military advantage is dependent on EMS Superiority. The EMS empowers us to communicate with confidence, navigate with certainty and engage with accuracy. As NATO looks to 2030, EW awareness, investment, and development of advanced capabilities will be imperative to NATO's evolving "deter and defend" strategy for warfare across all domains in the digital age.

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This recent committee meeting was ACM Peach's last. For the past three years, he has served in this post as both NATO and the United Kingdom's most senior military officer. Dutch Navy Admiral Rob Bauer will succeed him as the next Chairman of the Committee. At the meeting, ACM Peach also received the Legion of Merit award, the highest US military honor presented to foreign leaders. He has a distinguished military career and a long, close relationship with AOC as he was the recipient of our highest honor, the AOC Gold Medal, in 2013. AOC thanks ACM Peach for his service and congratulates him on his Legion of Merit award.

## Christine Wormuth Confirmed as Secretary of the Army

*by Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach & Tala Alshaboot, Research Assistant, Advocacy and Outreach*

*"If confirmed, I will continue the Army's focus on modernization and continue evolving Army doctrine to ensure it can meet the requirements of the forthcoming new National Defense Strategy (NDS)"*

- Christine Wormuth, Secretary, U.S. Army, at her confirmation hearing on May 13, 2021.

On Thursday, May 27, the Senate confirmed Ms. Christine Wormuth to be the next Secretary of the Army. As expected, the confirmation process was unanimous and bipartisan. She becomes the first female Army Secretary. By comparison, the U.S. Air Force has had three female secretaries -Sheila Widnall, Deborah Lee James, and Heather Wilson. The Navy has not yet had a female secretary. Wormuth arrives with a long career of achievement. She was formerly the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy under President Barak Obama and was the Director for the Independent Commission on the Security Forces of Iraq.

Ms. Wormuth testified at her confirmation hearing on May 13, before the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC). Among many topics covered, she reiterated her support for the Army's persistent modernization plan that was highlighted last week at AOC's Army Cyber Electromagnetic Activities (CEMA) 2021 Conference. She pledged to ensure that the Army is prepared to meet the complex global challenges of tomorrow recognized that a forthcoming new defense strategy would likely make some changes to the lines of effort outlined in the 2018 National Defense Strategy.

While electromagnetic spectrum operations was not a topic during her confirmation hearing, Ms. Wormuth did address some critical issues in her responses to Advance Policy Questions (APQs). Specifically, on the issue of developing new test and evaluation capabilities, Ms. Wormuth noted that "additional improvements are needed to enable adequate evaluation of the performance of Army directed energy weapons, hypersonics, autonomous systems, and artificial intelligence-based systems." She also highlighted the importance of testing

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and evaluation related to Army developed systems and leveraging commercial off-the-shelf technologies. The latter may provide advanced capability but may not be operationally effective in a combat environment. The Army's modernization plan relies on connecting various sensors to shooters to fight anywhere and under any condition across all warfighting domains. These advanced systems operating at the fastest speeds and processing exponentially increasing data sets must be interoperable, integrated, and compatible. Testing and evaluation will play a vital role in fielding these new systems. Ms. Wormuth stated that "strong business partnerships between the Army and American industry partners – whether large, medium, or small – are key to modernizing the Army."

## From the Crows' Nest Discusses Joint All Domain Command and Control (JADC2)

*by Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach & Host of the Podcast, From the Crows' Nest*

From the Crows' Nest, AOC's podcast is launching a new mini-series of interviews covering the role of electromagnetic spectrum operations in advancing JADC2. For several episodes in the summer, podcast host Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach, will bring together perspectives on JADC2 across government, military, industry, and academia. The series started in May with guest Mr. Steven "Tango" Tourangeau, Dean of the new Reginald Victor Jones (RVJ) Institute, a non-profit center designed to enable EMS Superiority for the Department of Defense.

JADC2 is a vision that connects all military sensors into a single network. It is designed to give a single leader as a Combatant Commander or a senior Department of Defense official a situational awareness picture across every area of responsibility. The backbone of JADC2 is our ability to maneuver in the electromagnetic spectrum. Tango explains more.

### ***On services addressing the compatibility of networks without making assumptions for the technology in the field***

"Each service is tasked by law to do a certain mission, and they are funded to do that mission. So, unfortunately, there is no reward for sharing across services. I have to give a of credit to the services right now, because regardless of reward or not they see the importance of doing it, and they are reaching out to the other services to try and figure out how to make this work in a bigger scale. The Joint piece though is going to be harder to do, because if you set out some joint requirements, and in the USAF's case, they're the lead service for JADC2, without somebody directing, that funding gets spent by each of the services to support JADC2, it's going to be very difficult to make that work. That said, there are ways to make it work and I've seen it being pursued at this point."

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## ***On the role of EMSO in JADC2***

“Under the EMSO construct, the piece that enables it all is the data links or the communications. Although electromagnetic protection falls under the EMSO construct, it is the one enabler that we need to put some more focus on to make this happen. The briefings I see on JADC2 still have the lightning bolts connecting the different sensors and devices. Those lightning bolts are not guaranteed. As a matter of fact, Russia and China have watched us for the last two decades developing this network warfare concept and have designed capabilities specifically to take those links away. And it is published in their open policies, procedures, and doctrine. That is what they’re intending to do. I don’t believe we focused enough on how to ensure those data links are going to survive in a congested, contested, constrained, or denied electromagnetic operational environment.”

## ***On the integration of multi-spectral capabilities for network resiliency***

“The challenge is that we have a lot of systems out there with a given network capability, and part of the challenge of the network will be to understand what each node is capable of. Part of the intelligence of the network will have to understand what information are you trying to pass? How critical is it that we pass it immediately? Can it be saved and data burst through another means or at another time? This is basically what the DOD EMS strategy is referring to when we talk about spectrum sharing and dynamic spectrum access. We need to be able to use available spectrum and prioritize what gets sent when. It is all about time, frequency, and geography, to be honest. Can we use non-traditional sources as a relay in the network? If the network is smart enough, will it know what data needs to get passed when, and what mode or part of the spectrum is best used at the time, based on what’s available to pass that information? It is going to require a very smart network of networks, but I don’t think this is something that’s not doable. We can get there. We just have to focus on how we ensure freedom of access in the spectrum.”

To listen to this episode or learn more about the *From the Crows’ Nest* podcast, visit and subscribe at [crows.org/podcast](https://crows.org/podcast).

## **Pentagon Wants Contractor for Electromagnetic Spectrum Support**

*by Tala Alshaboot, Research Assistant, Advocacy and Outreach*

The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) searches for a contractor to support Joint Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations (JEMSO). An April 28 source sought notice details the incumbent contract has a ceiling value of \$137 million.

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DISA is searching for large and small businesses to provide operational engineering and spectrum management support to help ensure electromagnetic environment dominance and reliable communications during operations, exercises, and contingencies. Work will include spectrum management as well as support for electronic attacks and electronic protection. The contractor will also provide personnel with training and resources to deliver intelligence, operations planning, and interference resolution to warfighting units.

According to Bloomberg Government, the government has not yet planned if the contract will take part in a small business set-aside capacity. Prospective contractors require top secret, special compartmented information (TS-SCI) security clearances. The government is interested in responses from companies on large multiple-award contracts such as OASIS and Alliant II Large Business and federal supply schedules. The incumbent contract is held by Peraton Inc. and was awarded in May 2016. It is a hybrid firm-fixed-price and cost-plus-fixed-fee contract awarded under full and open competition. This contract ends by June 1.

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*For questions, comments, or additional information on any of the above topics, please contact Ken Miller, AOC Director of Advocacy and Outreach, at [kmiller@crowns.org](mailto:kmiller@crowns.org) or Tala Alshaboot, Research Assistant, Advocacy and Outreach at [tala@crowns.org](mailto:tala@crowns.org).*

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