

PRESS RELEASE

House Armed Services Committee Duncan Hunter, Chairman

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CHAIRMAN HUNTER ANNOUNCES REORGANIZATION OF HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter today unveiled plans to reorganize the committee to better address and support the Department of Defense's missions and capabilities.

Said Hunter, "The dramatic national security challenges presently facing the nation require that we constantly reevaluate all aspects of our defense establishment and procedures. After consultation with the members of the House Armed Services Committee, I have decided to reorganize the committee into six subcommittees, each of which shall have focus and jurisdiction over specific military missions or capabilities."

The new subcommittees and leadership will be:

- Full Committee Vice Chairman – Congressman Curt Weldon (R-PA)
- Tactical Air and Land Forces – Congressman Weldon
- Readiness – Congressman Joel Hefley (R-CO)
- Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities – Congressman Jim Saxton (R-NJ)
- Total Force – Congressman John M. McHugh (R-NY)
- Strategic Forces – Congressman Terry Everett (R-AL)
- Projection Forces – Congressman Roscoe G. Bartlett (R-MD)

Hunter noted, "These new subcommittees will allow the committee to focus more intently on the diverse mission areas presently facing the Department of Defense. Of particular importance, this new structure will allow the committee to place greater emphasis on unconventional threats and enhancing our capabilities to respond to them. Furthermore, the new structure will allow the committee to examine our nation's defense needs not only in terms of individual weapon systems or the traditional role of a particular military service, but from the perspective of our ability to project and integrate our military forces throughout the world to respond to evolving threats."

Hunter concluded, "Our nation must manage significant national security challenges over the next several years. We are already facing a potential conflict with Iraq, new challenges on the Korean

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Peninsula, and key decisions in the President's plans to transform the military. I am pleased and honored to have such a talented and seasoned team of subcommittee chairs to help lead the committee through the 108th Congress."

H.Res. 5, as approved by the House of Representatives on January 7, 2003, granted the House Armed Services Committee authority to establish six subcommittees. Although the new alignment will be effective immediately, subcommittee membership will not be determined until the formal committee organizational meetings, which are scheduled for the first week in February."

A summary of new subcommittee responsibilities is attached.

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HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ORGANIZATION FOR 108th CONGRESS

The House Armed Services Committee will operate with six standing subcommittees during the 108th Congress organized to focus on critical military missions instead of traditional budget categories.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES

Responsible for all Army and Air Force acquisition programs (except strategic weapons and lift programs, special operations and information technology accounts). In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for all Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs, National Guard and Army and Air Force reserve modernization, and ammunition programs.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

Responsible for military readiness, training, logistics and maintenance issues and programs. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for all military construction, installations and family housing issues, including the base closure process.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, UNCONVENTIONAL THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Responsible for DOD counter proliferation and counter terrorism programs and initiatives. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Special Operations Forces, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, information technology policy and programs, force protection policy and oversight, and related intelligence support.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TOTAL FORCE

Responsible for military personnel policy, reserve component integration and employment issues, military health care, military education and POW/MIA issues. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Morale, Welfare and Recreation issues and programs.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Responsible for strategic forces (except deep strike systems), space programs, ballistic missile defense and Department of Energy national security programs (except non-proliferation programs).

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROJECTION FORCES

Responsible for Navy and Marine Corps programs (except strategic weapons and space programs, special operations and information technology accounts), deep strike bombers and related systems, strategic lift programs and naval reserve equipment.