Unified Command Plan

5 May 2006
MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Unified Command Plan 2006

Pursuant to my authority as Commander in Chief, I hereby approve and direct implementation of the revised Unified Command Plan.

You are directed to notify the Congress on my behalf, consistent with title 10, United States Code, section 161(b)(2).

[Signature]
UNIFIED COMMAND PLAN

GENERAL

1. The National Security Act of 1947 and title 10 of the United States Code (USC) provide the basis for the establishment of combatant commands. The Unified Command Plan (UCP) establishes the missions and responsibilities for commanders of combatant commands ("combatant commanders") and establishes their general geographic areas of responsibility (AORs) and functions. The commander of a combatant command that includes a geographic AOR is a "geographic combatant commander." The commander of a combatant command with trans-regional responsibilities is a "functional combatant commander." Command of combatant commands will be exercised as provided for herein and as otherwise directed by the Secretary of Defense (hereafter referred to as "the Secretary").

2. Several key strategic documents provide direction for the execution of missions established in the UCP. Though not all-inclusive, the list of documents in Appendix A represents the core of such strategic direction and is hereafter referred to as "strategic guidance."

3. Communications between the President or the Secretary (or their duly deputized alternates or successors) and the combatant commanders shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (hereafter referred to as "the Chairman"), unless otherwise directed. (Throughout this document, where not specified, "otherwise directed" and "as directed" refer to direction by the President or the Secretary.)
FORCES

4. The Secretary will document his direction for the assignment of forces to combatant commands and to US Element North American Aerospace Defense Command (USELENMORAD) in the memorandum entitled "Forces for Unified Commands" as incorporated into "Global Force Management Guidance."

5. The Secretaries of the Military Departments will assign forces to combatant commands as directed by the Secretary. These forces will be under the command of the combatant commanders. Except as otherwise directed by the Secretary, forces assigned to combatant commands do not include forces assigned to carry out those functions of the Secretary of a Military Department specified in sections 3013(b), 5013(b), and 8013(b) of title 10, or forces assigned to multinational peacekeeping organizations.

6. Except as otherwise directed, all forces operating within the geographic AOR assigned to a combatant command shall be assigned or attached to and under the command of that commander. This includes National Guard and Reserve forces when ordered to federal active duty, but excludes forces not assigned to combatant commanders under paragraph 5, above, unless otherwise directed.

7. A force assigned or attached to a combatant command or USELENMORAD under section 162 of title 10 may be transferred from that command only as directed by the Secretary and under procedures prescribed by the Secretary and approved by the President.
AUTHORITY

8. The authority of the combatant commanders is established in chapter 6 of title 10. The combatant commander shall exercise command authority, as defined in section 164(c) of title 10, over all commands and forces assigned to that command, unless otherwise directed.

9. When the position of the combatant commander is vacant, or in the temporary absence or disability of the combatant commander, the deputy commander acts as the combatant commander and performs the duties of the combatant commander until a successor is appointed or the absence or disability ceases. If a deputy commander has not been designated, or is also temporarily absent or disabled, interim command shall pass to the next senior officer present for duty eligible to exercise command, regardless of Service affiliation.

10. The combatant commander is responsible for:
   a. Deterring attacks against the United States, its territories, possessions and bases, and employing appropriate force should deterrence fail.
   b. Carrying out assigned missions and tasks and planning for and executing military operations, as directed, in support of strategic guidance.
   c. Assigning tasks to, and directing coordination among, the combatant command’s subordinate commands to ensure unified action in the accomplishment of assigned missions.
   d. Maintaining the security of and carrying out force protection responsibilities for the command, including assigned or attached commands, forces, and assets.
   e. Certifying the readiness of assigned headquarters staffs designated to perform as a joint task force (JTF) or functional component headquarters staff.
f. Providing, as directed, trained and ready joint forces to another combatant command.

g. Planning, conducting, and assessing security cooperation activities pursuant to strategic guidance. Functional combatant commanders will coordinate their activities to ensure security cooperation activities support geographic combatant commanders’ security cooperation strategies.

11. Except as otherwise provided in this UCP, or by the President or the Secretary, a geographic combatant commander is additionally responsible, within the commander’s geographic AOR, for:

a. Planning and, as appropriate, conducting the evacuation and protection of US citizens and nationals and, in connection therewith, designated other persons, in support of their evacuation from threatened areas overseas; and reviewing emergency action plans.

b. Providing US military representation to international and US national agencies unless otherwise directed. US military representatives will provide advice and assistance to chiefs of US diplomatic missions in negotiation of rights, authorizations, and facility arrangements required in support of US military missions.

c. Providing the single point of contact on military matters within the AOR, excluding the United States. Unless otherwise directed, whenever any combatant commander undertakes exercises, operations, or other activities with the military forces of nations in another combatant commander’s AOR, those exercises, operations, and activities, and their attendant command relations, will be as mutually agreed among the combatant commanders. If required, the Chairman shall prepare directions for the approval of the Secretary.

d. Assuming combatant command of security assistance organizations in the event of war or an emergency that prevents control through normal channels or as directed.
e. When directed, commanding US forces conducting peace or humanitarian relief operations, whether as a unilateral US action or as part of a multinational organization; or supporting US forces that have been placed under the authority, direction, or control of a multinational organization.

f. Providing the single Department of Defense (DOD) point of contact within the AOR, excluding the United States, for combating weapons of mass destruction (CbtWMD) activities and for execution of CbtWMD missions.

g. Exercising force protection responsibilities for all US military forces (except DOD personnel for whom the chiefs of US diplomatic missions have security responsibilities by law or interagency agreement).

h. Planning for, supporting, and conducting the recovery of astronauts, space vehicles, space payloads, and objects, as directed.

i. Establishing and maintaining a standing joint force headquarters core element.

COORDINATION ACROSS GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

12. Delineation of general geographic AORs is intended to provide a basis for coordination by combatant commanders. These geographic AORs are described in Appendix B and are not restrictive for accomplishment of assigned missions. Combatant commanders may operate forces wherever required to accomplish their missions. Unless otherwise directed, when significant operations overlap boundaries, a task force will be formed. Command of the task force will be determined by the Secretary and assigned to the appropriate commander. Forces directed by the Secretary may also conduct operations from or within any geographic area as required for accomplishing assigned tasks, as mutually agreed by the combatant commanders.
UNIFIED COMBATANT COMMANDS

13. **US Central Command (USCENTCOM)**
   a. Headquarters: MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida
   b. Geographic AOR: see Appendix B

14. **US European Command (USEUCOM)**
   a. Headquarters: Patch Barracks, Vaihingen, Germany
   b. Geographic AOR: see Appendix B

15. **US Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM)**
   a. Headquarters: Norfolk, Virginia
   b. Geographic AOR: none
   c. USJFCOM's unique functional responsibilities reflect its role in transforming US military forces to meet the security challenges of the 21st century and include:
      (1) Being functionally responsible to the Chairman for leading joint concept development and experimentation (CDE).
         (a) Coordinating the CDE efforts of the Services, combatant commands, and defense agencies to support joint interoperability and future joint warfighting capabilities.
         (b) Leading the development, exploration, and integration of new joint warfighting concepts.
         (c) Serving as the DOD executive agent for Joint Warfighting Experimentation, including planning, designing, preparing, and assessing a program of joint warfighting experimentation in coordination with the Services, other combatant commands, and defense agencies, as appropriate.
         (d) Developing combined operational warfighting concepts and integrating multinational and interagency warfighting transformation efforts with joint CDE in coordination with the other combatant commands.
(2) Serving as the lead Joint Force Integrator, responsible for recommending changes in doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities to integrate Service, defense agency, and interagency and multinational capabilities.

(a) In coordination with the Chairman, supporting the development and integration of fully interoperable systems and capabilities, including command, control, communications, computers and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR), for joint warfighting.

(b) In coordination with the Chairman, leading the development of joint doctrine, concepts, requirements, and integrated architectures for joint command and control to ensure integration and interoperability from the tactical level through the interface with the global level.

(c) Supporting the Chairman’s joint doctrine program, including providing recommendations to the Chairman for the development, assessment, distribution, and maintenance of joint tactics, techniques and procedures, and doctrine publications.

(3) Serving as the lead agent for Joint Force Training, responsible to the Chairman for:

(a) Managing the combatant commanders’ portion of the Chairman’s exercise program, conducting and assessing joint and multinational training and exercises for assigned forces, and assisting the Chairman, other combatant commanders, and Service Chiefs in their preparations for joint and combined operations.

(b) Coordinating and scheduling joint exercises for assigned forces, as well as deconflicting the participation of forces in worldwide joint exercises and training events in support of combatant commander requirements.

(c) Providing joint training for and/or assistance with the joint training of combatant commander battle staffs, joint task force headquarters (JTF HQ) staffs, JTF functional component commanders and their staffs, and headquarters designated as potential joint headquarters or portion thereof.
(d) Leading the collaborative development of joint training standards and designing standardized joint training processes and programs for JTF HQ and functional component joint training events in support of combatant commander requirements.

(e) Providing Joint Training System expertise to the Joint Staff, other combatant commands, Services, and defense agencies to support the development of joint training requirements and methods, joint training plans, and the execution of joint exercises.

(f) Leading the development and operation of systems and architectures that directly support the distributed joint training requirements of other combatant commanders, JTFs, and defense agencies.

(g) Providing expertise, advisory support, and strategic planning support within the joint training community on joint training-related modeling and simulation issues.

(h) Coordinating and providing consequence management support for combatant commander exercises.

(4) Leading the collaborative development of joint readiness standards for JTF HQ staffs, functional component headquarters staffs, and headquarters designated as potential joint headquarters or portion thereof, for recommendation to the Chairman.

(5) Serving as the Primary Joint Force Provider, responsible for:

(a) Deploying trained and ready joint forces and providing operational and intelligence support from assigned forces in response to the requirements of supported combatant commanders.

(b) Identifying and recommending global joint sourcing solutions, in coordination with the Services and other combatant commanders, from all forces and capabilities (except designated forces sourced by USSOCOM, USSTRATCOM and USTRANSCOM) to the Chairman.

(c) Supervising implementation of sourcing decisions.
(d) Serving as the DOD Joint Deployment Process Owner, responsible for maintaining the global capability for rapid and decisive military force power projection.

16. **US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM)**

   b. Geographic AOR: see Appendix B
   c. Unique responsibilities include:

   (1) Providing Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA), as directed.

   (2) In coordination with USSTRATCOM, providing technical advice and assistance to geographic combatant commanders conducting consequence management operations in response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosive incidents outside CONUS.

   (3) Planning for the binational Canada-US land and maritime defense of the Canada-US region.

   (4) CDRUSNORTHCOM is normally designated Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command (CDRNORAD), the binational command of the United States and Canada. In accordance with the current Canada-US agreement, when CDRNORAD is a Canadian, Commander USNORTHCOM will be designated Deputy Commander NORAD. CDRNORAD is responsible for the employment of forces made available by the United States and Canada with the support of the Commander, US Strategic Command and other combatant commanders.

   (5) Additionally, as the senior US officer assigned to NORAD, CDRUSNORTHCOM is designated as CDRUSELEMNORAD. US forces made available for NORAD are assigned or attached to CDRUSELEMNORAD in accordance with section 162 of title 10 and may be utilized by CDRUSNORTHCOM for US unilateral, non-NORAD operations.
17. **US Pacific Command (USPACOM)**
   
   a. Headquarters: Camp H. M. Smith, Oahu, Hawaii
   
   b. Geographic AOR: see Appendix B
   
   c. Unique responsibilities include:
      
      (1) Providing DSCA, as directed.
      
      (2) In coordination with USEUCOM, planning and, as appropriate, conducting noncombatant evacuation operations; conducting counterterrorism planning for all US diplomatic missions; and carrying out force protection responsibilities in those areas of the Russian Federation east of 100\(^0\)E.

18. **US Southern Command (USOUTHCOM)**
   
   a. Headquarters: Miami, Florida
   
   b. Geographic AOR: see Appendix B
   
   c. Unique responsibilities include:
      
      (1) Providing DSCA, as directed.
      
      (2) Defending the Panama Canal and the Panama Canal area.

19. **US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)**
   
   a. Headquarters: MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida
   
   b. Geographic AOR: none
   
   c. In addition to functions specified in section 167 of title 10, unique responsibilities include:
      
      (1) Serving as the Special Operations Forces Joint Force Provider, including:
      
      (a) Providing combat-ready special operations forces to other combatant commands when and as directed.
      
      (b) Identifying and recommending global joint sourcing solutions, in coordination with the Services and other combatant commanders, from all special operations forces and capabilities to the Chairman.
      
      (c) Supervising implementation of sourcing decisions.
(2) Training, to include joint training exercises, of assigned forces and developing appropriate recommendations to the Chairman regarding strategy, doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures for the joint employment of special operations forces.

(3) Integrating and coordinating DOD psychological operations (PSYOP) capabilities to enhance interoperability and support USSTRATCOM's information operations responsibilities and other combatant commanders' PSYOP planning and execution.

(4) Serving as the lead combatant commander for planning, synchronizing, and as directed, executing global operations against terrorist networks in coordination with other combatant commanders. CDRUSOCOM leads a global collaborative planning process leveraging other combatant command capabilities and expertise that results in decentralized execution by both USOCOM and other combatant commands against terrorist networks. In this role, USOCOM's specific responsibilities include:

(a) Integrating DOD strategy, plans, intelligence priorities, and operations against terrorist networks designated by the Secretary.

(b) Planning campaigns against designated terrorist networks.

(c) Prioritizing and synchronizing theater security cooperation activities, deployments, and capabilities that support campaigns against designated terrorist networks in coordination with the geographic combatant commanders.

(d) Exercising command and control of operations in support of selected campaigns, as directed.

(e) Providing military representation to US national and international agencies for matters related to US and multinational campaigns against designated terrorist networks, as directed.

(f) Planning operational preparation of the environment (OPE); executing OPE or synchronizing the execution of OPE in coordination with the geographic combatant commanders.
(5) Exercising command and control of selected special operations missions, as directed.

20. US Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM)
   a. Headquarters: Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska
   b. Geographic AOR: none
   c. Unique responsibilities include:
      (1) Maintaining primary responsibility among the combatant commanders for strategic nuclear forces to support the national objective of strategic deterrence.
      (2) Providing integrated global strike planning and command and control support to deliver rapid, extended range, precision kinetic (nuclear and conventional) and non-kinetic (elements of space and information operations) effects in support of theater and national objectives.
      (3) Exercising command and control of selected global strike missions, as directed.
      (4) Developing desired characteristics and capabilities, advocating, planning, and conducting space operations (force enhancement, space control, and space support, including space lift and on-orbit operations, and force application), including:
         (a) Providing warning and assessment of space attack.
         (b) Supporting NORAD by providing the missile warning and space surveillance necessary to fulfill the US commitment to the NORAD Agreement.
         (c) Serving as the single point of contact for military space operational matters, except as otherwise directed.
         (d) Providing military representation to US national agencies, commercial, and international agencies for matters related to military space operations, as directed and in coordination with the Chairman and other combatant commanders.
         (e) Coordinating and conducting space campaign planning.
(f) Serving as the DOD Manager for Manned Space Flight Support
Operations.

(5) Planning, integrating and coordinating global missile defense
operations and support (sea, land, air, and space-based) for missile defense;
and, developing desired characteristics and capabilities for global missile
defense operations and support for missile defense, including:

(a) Providing warning of missile attack to other combatant
commanders.

(b) Providing assessment of missile attack if NORAD or the
appropriate combatant command is unable to accomplish the assessment
mission.

(c) Advocating desired global missile defense and missile warning
characteristics and capabilities of all combatant commanders, including the
battle management command, control, communications, and intelligence
system and architecture.

(6) Planning, integrating, and coordinating intelligence, surveillance, and
reconnaissance in support of strategic and global operations, as directed.

(7) Tasking and coordinating C4ISR capabilities in support of strategic
force employment, to include global strike, missile defense, and associated
planning, as directed.

(8) Integrating and coordinating DOD information operations (IO)
(consisting of the core IO capabilities of computer network attack (CNA),
computer network defense (CND), electronic warfare (EW), operations security
(OPSEC), military psychological operations (PSYOP), and military deception
(MILDEC)) that cross geographic AORs or across the core IO capabilities,
including:

(a) Supporting other combatant commanders for planning.

(b) Planning and coordinating capabilities that have trans-regional
effects or that directly support national objectives.

(c) Exercising command and control of selected missions, as directed.
(d) Identifying desired characteristics and capabilities for, planning for, and directing DOD-wide CND.

(e) Identifying desired characteristics and capabilities for CNA, conducting CNA in support of assigned missions, and integrating CNA capabilities in support of other combatant commanders, as directed.

(f) Identifying desired characteristics and capabilities for joint electronic warfare and planning for and conducting electronic warfare in support of assigned missions.

(g) Supporting other combatant commanders for the planning and integration of joint OPSEC and military deception.

(9) Planning, integrating and coordinating DOD global network operations by directing Global Information Grid operations and defense and identifying and advocating these desired characteristics and capabilities.

(10) Serving as lead combatant commander for integrating and synchronizing DOD CbtWMD efforts, including:

(a) Planning, integrating and synchronizing DOD CbtWMD efforts with the efforts of other US government agencies, as directed.

(b) Integrating USSTRATCOM's global missions to support combatant command and defense agency efforts in combating WMD.

(c) In coordination with USJFCOM, develop and make recommendations to the Chairman regarding joint force integration, exercises and training for CbtWMD.

(d) Responsible to the Chairman for identifying and assessing readiness of US capabilities, adequacy of partner capabilities, and capabilities of potential adversaries.

(e) In coordination with the Chairman, advocating combating WMD capabilities of all combatant commanders.

(f) Supporting geographic combatant commands and USSOCOM for CbtWMD planning and execution.
(g) Providing military representation to US national and international agencies for CbtWMD matters related to US and multinational campaigns, as directed.

(h) Providing the single military point of contact for CbtWMD efforts in space.

21. **US Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM)**
   b. Geographic AOR: None. When USTRANSCOM's forces are deployed in a geographic combatant commander's AOR, they will remain assigned to and under the control of USTRANSCOM, unless otherwise directed.
   c. Unique responsibilities include:
      (1) Providing common-user and commercial air, land, and sea transportation, terminal management and aerial refueling to support the global deployment, employment, sustainment and redeployment of US forces.
      (2) Serving as the Mobility Joint Force Provider, including:
         (a) Identifying and recommending global joint sourcing solutions, in coordination with the Services and other combatant commanders, from all mobility forces and capabilities to the Chairman.
         (b) Supervising implementation of sourcing decisions.
      (3) Providing DOD global patient movement, in coordination with geographic combatant commands, through the Defense Transportation System.
      (4) Serving as the Distribution Process Owner, including:
         (a) Coordinating and overseeing the DOD distribution system to provide interoperability, synchronization, and alignment of DOD wide, end-to-end distribution.
         (b) Developing and implementing distribution process improvements that enhance the Defense Logistics and Global Supply Chain Management System.
Appendix A

List of Strategic Documents

1. National Security Strategy
2. National Defense Strategy
3. National Military Strategy
4. Contingency Planning Guidance
5. Security Cooperation Guidance
6. National Military Strategic Plan for the War on Terrorism
7. DOD Strategy for Homeland Defense and Civil Support
8. Global Force Management Guidance
9. Terms of Reference for the Implementation of UCP 02 Ch-2 Revision 1

(Though not all-inclusive, this list represents core strategic documents that provide direction for the execution of missions established in the UCP.)
Appendix B

Geographic Areas of Responsibility

General

1. Water-land interface. In general, where the boundary between two geographic combatant commands meets at the water-land interface (e.g. Eastern Mediterranean and Eastern Caspian Sea), the demarcation line will be at the water's edge. This does not relinquish the responsibilities of the geographic combatant commanders to coordinate across this boundary.

2. Territories and possessions. Except as otherwise provided in this UCP, or unless otherwise directed, geographic combatant commanders are responsible for the territories and possessions located in their area of responsibility (AOR), in accordance with paragraph 11, irrespective of the location of a territory or possession's governing country. These geographic combatant commanders will coordinate with the geographic combatant commanders of the governing country as required.

AORs

1. USCENTCOM’s general geographic AOR for the conduct of normal operations includes the Indian Ocean west & north of the line from the Pakistan/India coastal border west to 068°E, south to 5°S/068°E, west to 5°S/059°E, south to 8°S/059°E, southwest to 11°S/054°E, west to 11°S/042°E, north to 5°S/042°E, and northwest to the Kenya/Tanzania coastal border; Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, the Seychelles, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan; the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman, and Persian Gulf. See map at TAB.
2. USEUCOM's general geographic AOR for the conduct of normal operations includes the Indian Ocean south of 5° S and west of 042° E; the Arctic Ocean east of 045° W and west of 100° E, Greenland and the Atlantic Ocean east of 045° W, south of Greenland to 18° N, east to 027° W, and south to Antarctica, the Irish Sea, the English Channel, the North Sea, and the coast of Norway; the continent of Europe (including the Russian Federation and the Caspian Sea); Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Israel; the continent of Africa (except Egypt, Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, and Djibouti); the Mediterranean Sea, the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea, and the Sea of Azov. See map at TAB.

3. USNORTHCOM's general geographic AOR for the conduct of normal operations includes North America, the Gulf of Mexico, the Straits of Florida, the Atlantic Ocean and the Arctic Ocean from 169° W, east to 045° W, south to 27° 30' N, west to 079° 15' W, south to 26° 15' N, east to 078° 45' W, south to 22° 45' N, west along the northern Cuban territorial waters to 23° N/084° W, southwest to the Yucatan peninsula at 21° /086° 45' W, south from Mexico at 092° W to 08° N, west to 112° W, northwest to 50° N/142° W, west to 170° E, north to 53° N, northeast to 65° 30' N/169° W, and north to 90° N. See map at TAB.

4. USPACOM's general geographic AOR for the conduct of normal operations includes the Pacific Ocean from Antarctica at 092° W, north to 8° N, west to 112° W, northwest to 50° N/142° W, west to 170° E, north to 53° N, northeast to 65° 30' N/169° W, north to 90° N, the Arctic Ocean west of 169° W and east of 100° E; the People's Republic of China, Mongolia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, Japan; the countries of Southeast Asia and the southern Asian landmass to the western border of India; the Indian Ocean east & south of the line from the India/Pakistan coastal border west to 068° E, south to 5° S/068° E, west to 5° S/059° E, south to 8° S/059° E, southwest to 11° S/054° E, west to 11° S/042° E, and south along 042° E to Antarctica; Madagascar, Australia, New Zealand, and Hawaii. See map at TAB.
5. USSOUTHCOM’s general geographic AOR for the conduct of normal operations includes Central and South America, the Caribbean and The Bahamas, the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans from Antarctica at 027° W, north to 18° N, west to 045° W, north to 27°30’N, west to 079°15’W, south to 26°15’N, east to 078°45’W, south to 22°45’N, west along the northern Cuban territorial waters to 23°N, 084°W, southwest to the Yucatan peninsula at 21°N/086°45’W, south from Mexico at 092° W to Antarctica. See map at TAB.