



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON

27 AUG 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2018-15 (U.S. Army Futures Command Relationship With the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology))

1. References:

- a. Title 10, United States Code, section 2546 (Civilian management of the defense acquisition system).
- b. Title 10, United States Code, section 2547 (Acquisition-related functions of chiefs of the armed forces).
- c. Title 10, United States Code, section 3016 (Assistant Secretaries of the Army).
- d. Department of Defense Directive 5000.01 (The Defense Acquisition System), May 12, 2003, Certified Current as of November 20, 2007.
- e. Headquarters, Department of the Army General Orders No. 2017-01 (Assignment of Functions and Responsibilities Within Headquarters, Department of the Army), 5 January 2017.
- f. Headquarters, Department of the Army General Orders No. 2018-10 (Establishment of United States Army Futures Command), 4 June 2018.

2. Purpose. The purpose of this directive is to define the relationship between U.S. Army Futures Command (AFC) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) (ASA (ALT)).

3. Background. The establishment of AFC marks a fundamental change in the Army's approach to modernization. The purpose of AFC is to improve future readiness by ensuring Soldiers have the weapons, equipment, and tools they need, when they need them, to deploy, fight, and win future conflicts. The success of AFC as a supported command depends in large measure on its relationships with other organizations in the Army modernization enterprise and the professionalism of those who fill their ranks. This is especially true when it come to the relationship between AFC and the Office of the ASA (ALT).

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#### 4. Army Futures Command

a. **Commanding General Responsibilities.** The Commanding General (CG), AFC leads the Army future force modernization enterprise and is the Army's chief futures modernization investment officer. AFC assesses and integrates the future operational environment, emerging threats, and technologies to develop and deliver concepts, requirements, and future force designs and it supports the delivery of modernization solutions. AFC postures the Army for the future by setting strategic direction, integrating the Army's future force modernization enterprise, and aligning resources to priorities. AFC is accountable to the Secretary of the Army and Chief of Staff, Army (CSA) for Army modernization.

b. **Chief of Staff, Army Acquisition Responsibilities.** The CSA retains his acquisition responsibilities, but may delegate the following to the CG, AFC at his discretion:

- develop and approve requirements for equipping the Army (except where Secretary of the Army approval is required);
- recommend tradeoffs among life-cycle cost, schedule, technical feasibility, performance objectives, and procurement quantity objectives to ensure that acquisition programs deliver best value in meeting approved military requirements;
- concur with Milestones A, B, and C, and full-rate production decisions; and
- recommend the termination of development or procurement programs for which life-cycle cost, schedule, and performance expectations are no longer consistent with approved military requirements, available funding, or levels of priority.

c. **Budget and Planning.** Program funding for all elements of the future force materiel modernization enterprise will flow from the Department of the Army to the CG, AFC, unless the Secretary of the Army directs otherwise. The CG, AFC is also responsible for planning and submitting Program Objective Memorandum information to the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8 Program Analysis and Evaluation Directorate.

#### 5. Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology)

a. **Responsibilities.** The ASA (ALT) is responsible for overseeing the acquisition, logistics, and technology matters of the Department of the Army. The ASA (ALT) is also the Army's chief scientist. As the Army Acquisition Executive (AAE), the ASA (ALT) is responsible for the management and control of the Army acquisition system. The AAE

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is the milestone decision authority for major defense acquisition programs with the CSA's concurrence. The AAE or designated program executive officer (PEO) is the milestone decision authority for non-major defense acquisition program-level programs.

b. Chain of Management Responsibilities. The chain of management responsibilities for acquisition programs runs from the program manager (PM) through the PEO to the AAE. The responsibility and authority for program management, including program planning beginning at the materiel development decision and life-cycle execution, is vested in these individuals.

## 6. Coordinating Instructions

a. Acquisition Support. The Office of the ASA (ALT), including PEOs and PMs, will support AFC in accomplishing its mission.

b. Additional Duty of the Principal Military Deputy. The Principal Military Deputy (PMILDEP) to the ASA (ALT) will have additional duty as the AFC Director, Combat Systems and will advise the CG, AFC on all issues as requested, especially those pertaining to research, development, acquisition, and contracting. As the AFC Director, Combat Systems, the PMILDEP will also ensure that PEOs and PMs in support of AFC prioritize Army modernization efforts and maximize cooperation, urgency, and unity of effort. The PMILDEP's assignment, reporting, and responsibilities to the ASA (ALT) remain unchanged.

c. Role of Program Executive Officers and Program Managers. The CG, AFC will identify to the ASA (ALT) the PEO and PM support required for AFC to accomplish its assigned tasks and missions. The CG, AFC and ASA (ALT) will recommend to the Secretary of the Army the organizational relationship and structure of that support (that is, operational control, direct support, general support, or other relationships) of the PEO(s) and PM(s) on a case-by-case basis as the mission and situation requires.

d. Responsibilities of Program Executive Officers and Program Managers. PEOs and PMs designated to support AFC in any capacity, as designated in paragraph 6c, will continue to be assigned to the ASA (ALT). The ASA (ALT) will approve the rating scheme of these PEOs and PMs. The PMs remain responsible for, and have authority to accomplish, program management and the ability to deliver materiel capabilities and solutions to meet the Army's operational needs. The PMs, under the direction of the milestone decision authority, will be responsible and accountable for accomplishing program objectives for total life-cycle systems management, including sustainment.

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e. Support Location. PEOs, PMs, and other acquisition personnel in support of AFC may be colocated with Cross-Functional Teams or any other element of AFC through mutual agreement of the CG, AFC and ASA (ALT). The Secretary of the Army will be the final authority on such matters, if necessary.

f. Science and Technology. As the Army's chief futures modernization investment officer, the CG, AFC, in consultation with the ASA (ALT), will prioritize, direct, integrate, and synchronize science and technology efforts, operations, and organizations across the Army.

7. Rescission. Headquarters, Department of the Army Principal Officials and affected organizations will identify and update administrative publications requiring revision based on this policy. This directive is rescinded upon publication of all the revised documents.

8. Applicability. This directive applies to the Regular Army, Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and U.S. Army Reserve.



Mark T. Esper

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