# Service Secretary Comments



## SECRETARY OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON JAN 1 8 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, 1700 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1700

SUBJECT: Army Response to Fiscal Year 2021 Director, Operational Test and Evaluation Annual Report

- 1. Thank you for the opportunity to include the Army's comments in the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report. This is the Department of the Army response.
- 2. I appreciate the thoroughness of the DOT&E report as well as the coordination between DOT&E and the Army. There has been significant progress in addressing many of the system level issues contained in the report. Additionally, the Army provides the below insights from the Service-level.
- a. The Army is actively modernizing to ensure we continue to provide a threat-informed most capable Army to the Joint Force. Correspondingly, the Army remains focused on ensuring that effective capabilities are employed to test and evaluate emerging technologies. The Army's Test and Evaluation (T&E) community has already initiated actions to provide our workforce with more advanced skills, modernize test capabilities, and invest in future capabilities to address many of the technologies identified in this report.
- b. The Army acknowledges the importance of the oversight role of the Office of the Secretary of Defense activities; however, the Army believes the management and execution of test capabilities to address new technology challenges is best retained at the Service level thereby appropriately aligning authority responsibility, and resources. For emerging capabilities such as Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning and Robotics, we look forward to DOT&E level policy to enable Service level execution of T&E.
- c. The Army is very pleased with the Department's recognition of the T&E challenges for Chemical and Biological Defense (CBD). The Army would like to emphasize that adequate and predictable funding continues to remain an additional challenge for CBD T&E modernization.

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4. We look forward to working with your office on implementing the recommendations at the Service level to ensure we continue to provide effective capabilities to our Soldiers in support of the Joint Force. Thank you for your continued support of Army programs and our Soldiers.

5. My point of contact for this action is Ms. Laura Pegher, 571-256-9438 or

laura.i.pegher.civ@army.mil.

Christine E. Wormuth

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY 1000 NAVY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

2 4 JAN 2022

#### MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION

SUBJECT: Department of the Navy Comments on the Fiscal Year 2021 DOT&E Annual Report

Pursuant to your e-mail dated December 14, 2021 requesting Department of the Navy comments on the FY2021 DOT&E Annual Report, the following is provided:

- Littoral Combat Ship (LCS): The report notes low reliability and availability due to
  propulsion issues. The Navy is addressing LCS Freedom variant propulsion issues
  through Combining Gear (CG) redesign, installation and performance verification.
  After the successful performance verification of the CG, LCS 21 was accepted and
  delivered to the Navy in November. LCS Independence variant propulsion reliability
  is being addressed by Strike Team systems engineering and logistics efforts.
  Improvements to maintenance, and design have been implemented resulting in
  increased availability on recent deployers.
- CVN 78 Gerald R. Ford Class Nuclear Aircraft Carrier: The report notes poor or unknown reliability of systems critical for flight operations. The Navy has implemented improvements that have steadily increased operational availability through the Post Delivery Test and Trials period. Operational availability increases include the Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System from 82% to 90%, the Advanced Arresting Gear from 76% to 87%, and the Dual Band Radar from 95% to 96%. As of December 2021, all 11 Advanced Weapons Elevators were turned over to the Navy. The report also states that CVN 78 Full Ship Shock Trial (FSST) results identified several design shortfalls not previously discovered by modeling and simulation or component-level testing. The results of FSST are under review and will be published in 2022. To date, no design shortfalls have been identified.
- F-35 Joint Strike Fighter: The report discusses the status of Block 4 mission systems software. The program continues to update the Continuous Capability Development and Delivery (C2D2) process to improve software development and software quality. In 2021, C2D2 delivered multiple weapons capabilities including ASRAAM B6, AIM-9X-3, CATM-154C-1 and the external gun pod carriage. The program fielded 7 significant software releases comprising 15 of the 39 Block 4 capabilities for the TR-2 hardware suite, including Auto Ground Collision Avoidance System, advanced Electronic Warfare expendables, GBU-54/38 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition, and United Kingdom's SPEAR Capability 1.

I appreciate DOT&E's coordination with the individual program offices. Over the years, the Navy has voiced concern about the classification of the DOT&E Annual Report. DOT&E's development of two reports with different and appropriate levels of releasability based on program security classification guides should reduce the risk of disclosure of critical unclassified

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information to our adversaries from official sources. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Fiscal Year 2021 DOT&E Annual Report.

Meredith Berger

Assistant Secretary of the Navy

(Energy, Installations and Environment)

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Performing the Duties of the

Under Secretary of the Navy

Copy to: ASN (RD&A) PCD/PMD ASN (RD&A) DASN (RDT&E)



## SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE WASHINGTON

#### MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION

SUBJECT: Department of the Air Force Response to Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Director, Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) Annual Report

I appreciate the opportunity to review the FY21 report. Holistically, this report reflects an accurate status of oversight programs in the Department of the Air Force (DAF) and identifies the challenges and opportunities of resourcing the Department of Defense test enterprise. The DAF has also provided clarifications and amplifying information for your consideration in the final report.

It is important to note the status of test and evaluation (T&E) resources not mentioned in the report including the ongoing DAF and Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) investments in T&E infrastructure that support the hypersonic and nuclear modernization efforts. While not addressing all shortfalls cited in the report, these funds are providing continuous improvement to the T&E infrastructure within current program and budget priorities. For example, AF/TE in coordination with TRMC has begun addressing long range corridor shortfalls and hypersonic wind tunnel issues cited in the report. In addition, the DAF is addressing the range instrumentation needs for hypersonic testing via the OSD-funded SkyRange program. These efforts, in various program phases, are on track to address shortfalls by FY26.

The DAF looks forward to continuing the partnership with DOT&E required to meet the test needs of Airmen and Guardians now and in the future.

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Frank Kendall

cc: AF/CV AF/TE

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