



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

March 13, 2015

The Honorable Harold "Hal" Rogers
Chairman, Committee on
Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 (P. L. 112-239), I am providing a list of unfunded programs that would substantially reduce operational and programmatic risk, and accelerate the fielding of critical military capabilities.

As described in my written and oral testimony, Navy's FY 2016 President's Budget (PB-16) submission is adequate to meet the missions articulated in the Defense Strategic Guidance and Quadrennial Defense Review. However, I believe PB-16 is the absolute minimum funding needed. Navy had to accept reduction in naval warfare systems' modernization, aircraft procurement, and air and missile defense capabilities, to meet fiscal constraints. Further, adversary naval warfare modernization, and our tactical aircraft readiness, have evolved since our budget submission – they are more challenging.

There are three warfare areas in which we are taking significant chances; they could benefit from additional resources. They are: 1) improve sensors and systems to defeat current and emerging air-to-air warfare and anti-ship cruise missile threats; 2) increase strike fighter, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR), and logistic aircraft capacity; and 3) improve undersea warfare sensors and fire control systems. A summary follows:

- Air-to-air Radio Frequency (RF) Kill Chain kits provide our aircraft the ability to counter sophisticated digital weapons and combat systems proliferated around the world today.
- Destroyer (DDG) combat system modernization will increase our capacity to meet Combatant Commander Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) and Naval Integrated Fire Control-Counter Air (NIFC-CA) warfare need (to defeat advanced missiles and strike/fighter aircraft).
- Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement Program (SEWIP Block II) will provide radar and communications signal intercept, and defeat anti-ship cruise missiles, enabling surface ships to operate in an anti-access environment.
- Submarine towed arrays are the most important sensors in our undersea warfare enterprise. Current inventory is inadequate to reliably meet global need.


- Our legacy strike fighters (F/A-18A-D) are reaching end of life faster than planned due to use and wear. Improving the inventory of F/A-18F and F-35C aircraft will help reconcile a near term (2018-2020) strike fighter inventory capacity challenge, and longer term (2020-2035) strike fighter model balance within the carrier air wing. It will reduce our reliance on legacy-model aircraft which are becoming increasingly expensive and less reliable.
- An additional MQ-4C (TRITON) increases our capacity to respond to projected worldwide Combatant Commander ISR demand.
- C-40A aircraft fulfill a maritime logistics requirement, and provide short-notice high-priority cargo and passenger missions globally. Two additional aircraft will bring the fleet to the minimum wartime requirement of 17 aircraft to support execution of Combatant Commander operational plans.

Priority	Navy FY 2016 Unfunded Priorities List	FY 16 (\$M)
1	RF Kill Chain Enhancements (+170 Counter Electronic Attack Blk 2 Kits)	\$170
2	DDG BMD/NIFC-CA Modernization Package (+1 Combat System)	\$60
3	SEWIP Blk II Advanced Electronic Detection Systems (+2 Units)	\$28
4	Submarine Towed Arrays (+4 TB-29X and +4 TB-34X Arrays)	\$20
5	F/A-18F <i>Super Hornet</i> Fighter Aircraft (+12 Aircraft)	\$1,150
6	F-35C Lightning II JSF Aircraft (+8 Aircraft)	\$1,040
7	MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Air Vehicle (+1 UAV)	\$65
8	C-40A Cargo Aircraft (+2 Aircraft)	\$187

The above items map to critical warfighting requirements, dramatically improve warfighting capability, and were unfunded in PB-16 due to fiscal constraints only.

A similar letter has been sent to the other congressional defense committees. If I can be of assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,


 JONATHAN W. GREENERT
 Admiral, U.S. Navy

Enclosure:

Navy's Fiscal Year 2016 Unfunded Priorities List

Copy to:

The Honorable Nita Lowey
 Ranking Member

Navy's FY 2016 Unfunded Priority List

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RF Kill Chain Enhancements (+170 Counter Electronic Attack-2 Kits)

While PB-16 intended to close gaps in critical kill chains, we were compelled to accept risk in the rate at which some capabilities are integrated into the Fleet. The air-to-air Radio Frequency (RF) kill chain defeats enemy jamming at longer ranges. An additional 170 jamming protection upgrade kits will provide counter-digital RF memory capabilities to 100% of F/A-18E/F *Super Hornets* and EA-18G *Growlers* by 2020.

DDG BMD/NIFC-CA Modernization Package (+1 Combat System)

As part of the Navy's *Arleigh Burke*-class DDG modernization program, Flight IIA DDGs are being modernized to include Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) and Naval Integrated Fire Control-Counter Air (NIFC-CA) capabilities. Procuring one combat system ship set in FY 2016 will allow us to modernize an additional DDG in FY 2018 with these capabilities. This will increase the Fleet's NIFC-CA and BMD capacity and improve our ability to pace the threat against a high-end adversary weapons system, particularly in Anti-Air Warfare and BMD mission areas.

SEWIP Blk II Advanced Electronic Detection Systems (+2 Units)

The Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement Program (SEWIP) provides for upgraded electromagnetic sensing capabilities for surface ships. SEWIP Block II provides electronic surveillance anti-ship missile defense capability with an upgraded receiver/antenna group, and improved electromagnetic interference mitigation and combat system interface. Procuring two additional units in FY 2016 will outfit two additional ships in FY 2018, for a total of 18 ships by the end of FY 2018.

Submarine Towed Arrays (+4 TB-29X and +4 TB-34X Arrays)

The submarine towed array system improves detection, classification and tracking capabilities for deployed *Virginia*-class SSN. Accelerating procurement by four additional TB-29X and four additional TB-34X arrays will improve operational

availability of advanced towed sensors and flexibility of operational forward deployed submarines. It will also increase spares inventory to improve towed array reliability and provide sufficient assets to equip deployed submarines with improved arrays.

F/A-18F Super Hornet Fighter Aircraft (+12 Aircraft)

The Navy remains challenged in managing the Strike Fighter inventory predominantly described by the balance between the end-of-life planning for F/A-18A-D legacy aircraft, and the requisite integration of F-35C aircraft. The risk is considered barely manageable in PB-16, and is based upon the success of the service life extension programs for F/A-18A-D legacy aircraft. Procuring 12 additional F/A-18F *Super Hornet* aircraft will reduce near-term Strike Fighter inventory gaps and risk, and address a long term inventory by assuring aircraft with useful life to 2035. The F/A-18F aircraft can be manufactured with the required wiring and infrastructure to be converted to an EA-18G aircraft, the only Department of Defense (DoD) tactical aircraft for Airborne Electronic Attack (AEA). This option would provide Navy with future flexibility to increase the EA-18G inventory as we continue to analyze the Joint AEA mission requirements in a DoD study this Spring.

F-35C Lightning II JSF Aircraft (+8 Aircraft)

Fiscal constraints compelled us to reduce F-35C Lightning II, the carrier-based variant of the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), procurement by 16 airframes (from 54 to 38) across the FYDP (when compared to PB-15). The F-35C, with its advanced sensors, data sharing capability, and ability to operate closer to threats, will enhance the air wing's ability to find targets and coordinate attacks. Procuring eight additional aircraft in FY 2016 will mitigate transition risk to the F-35C IOC in 2018, while also assuring the transition timeline of the next two JSF squadrons, by returning their stand up from FY 2021 and FY 2022 to FY 2020 and FY 2021, respectively.

MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Air Vehicle (+1 UAV)

The MQ-4C *Triton* high endurance unmanned aerial vehicle provides persistent maritime intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) with networked sensors to effectively meet the Navy's Maritime Strategy through five globally distributed orbits. Procuring an additional MQ-4C in FY 2016 will increase our ability to respond to projected worldwide Combatant Commander ISR demand, reduce overall risk in the Maritime ISR transition plan, and support retirement of EP-3/SPA at the end of their service life in 2020.

C-40A Cargo Aircraft (+2 Aircraft)

The C-40A aircraft fulfills a Navy-unique airlift requirement and continues to directly support our Naval Forces by serving short-notice high-priority cargo and passenger missions globally. The Navy C-40A fleet is currently operating at capacity. Increasing the inventory of C-40A by two aircraft completes the transition from C-9B legacy aircraft and brings the fleet to the minimum wartime requirement of 17 aircraft to support execution of Combatant Commander operational plans.