

FACT SHEET

2018 BUDGET: INVESTING IN OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE

The President's 2018 Budget ends the depletion of our Armed Forces and pursues peace through strength to fulfill the Federal Government's first responsibility: protecting our Nation. This budget ensures much-needed resources are provided to our Armed Forces to rebuild lost capacity and capability, to accelerate the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), and to keep us safe in a more dangerous world. We are going to make sure the men and women on the front lines of freedom have the tools they need to keep us safe and secure.

The *Budget* includes \$668 billion of discretionary budget authority for national defense, including \$603 billion for the base budget and \$65 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). These funds will provide the military forces needed to conduct ongoing operations, deter potential adversaries, modernize our nuclear deterrent, and protect the security of the United States.

Rebuilds our Armed Forces

The *Budget* fully reverses the defense sequester by increasing funding for national defense by \$54 billion above the cap in current law and fully offsetting this increase with non-defense discretionary reductions. This includes a \$52 billion increase for the Department of Defense (for a total of \$639 billion, including \$65 billion of OCO funding), as well as \$2 billion of increases for other national defense programs, including the National Nuclear Security Administration. Since defense sequestration was triggered in 2013, the world has grown more dangerous due to rising terrorism, destabilizing technology, and increasingly aggressive potential adversaries. Over the same period, our military has become smaller, and deferred training, maintenance, and modernization have degraded its ability to prepare for future war while sustaining current operations. The *Budget* begins to rebuild the U.S. Armed Forces, laying the groundwork for a larger, more capable, and more lethal Joint Force consistent with the President's national defense policy.

Builds Warfighting Readiness

Pursuant to the President's January 27, 2017, Memorandum on Rebuilding the U.S. Armed Forces, the *Budget* ends the depletion of our military and builds warfighting readiness. In 2018, the *Budget* provides for 56,400 more Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines than the end strength planned by the previous administration. These troops are needed to fill gaps in our combat units, maintain essential units previously scheduled for elimination, and provide critical enablers. The *Budget* prioritizes building readiness by enhancing training, funding critical maintenance and recapitalization requirements, growing our cyber workforce and capabilities, and restoring degraded infrastructure.

Accelerates the Defeat of ISIS

The *Budget* provides \$13 billion to accelerate the defeat of ISIS, which includes \$1.8 billion to train and equip our partners fighting ISIS on the ground. The *Budget* ensures that the

Department of Defense (DOD) has the resources to stop ISIS from posing a threat to the United States by funding Operation Inherent Resolve. This Operation is DOD's mission to liberate ISIS-held territory; strike its leaders, agents, infrastructure, and revenue sources; collect valuable intelligence that enables the disruption of ISIS' networks and its operations planning; and build the capacity of allied security forces in order to prevent the re-emergence of ISIS.

Strengthens the U.S. Army

The *Budget* strengthens the Army by rebuilding readiness, reversing end strength reductions, and preparing for future challenges. The *Budget* is an initial step toward restoring an Army that has been stressed by high operational demand and constrained funding levels in recent years. The *Budget* proposes a total Army end strength increase of 38,000, which will result in 1.018 million Soldiers (476,000 active, 199,000 reserve, and 343,000 National Guard members). This end strength increase will ensure that essential units are fully manned and improve the Army's readiness in the coming years. The *Budget* builds force structure, increases unit and flight training, and rebuilds installation and training infrastructure to create a more capable, prepared, and lethal Army. The request includes \$1 billion for the procurement and improvements of 48 UH-60 Black Hawks, \$936 million for 61 AH-64E Apaches, \$804 million for the procurement of 2,110 Joint Light Tactical Vehicles, \$772 million for the procurement and modernization of 71 Paladin Howitzers, and \$1.1 billion to modernize M1 Abrams tanks.

Rebuilds the U.S. Navy

The *Budget* rebuilds the Navy to better address current and future threats by restoring and improving readiness of the existing fleet and naval aircraft. The *Budget* request reflects a down payment on the President's commitment to expand the fleet by purchasing eight additional battle force ships: one *Gerald R. Ford* Class Aircraft Carrier; two *Virginia* Class submarines; two *Arleigh Burke* Class Destroyers; one Littoral Combat Ship; one *John Lewis* Class Fleet Replenishment Oiler; and one Towing, Salvage, and Rescue ship. The Navy is increasing its battle force ships from 275 at the end of FY 2016, to 282 by the end of FY 2017, and then to 292 by the end of FY 2018. The *Budget* also includes \$1.3 billion for the procurement of 14 F/A-18E/F fighter aircraft and \$845 million for four stealthy, carrier-capable F-35C strike fighters. The *Budget* request will help enable the U.S. Navy to maintain maritime dominance and superiority well into the 21st century.

Ensures a Ready and Fully Equipped U.S. Marine Corps

The *Budget* lays the foundation for a Marine Corps that meets the challenges of the 21st century. It increases funding to train Marines in intelligence, cyber, and information operations activities. The *Budget* also enhances training ranges, improves infrastructure to support new platforms and weapons, and addresses deteriorated facilities to improve safety and security. The request includes \$2.8 billion for the procurement of 20 F-35Bs (the short take-off and vertical landing version of the Joint Strike Fighter), \$721 million for 22 AH-1Z attack helicopters, \$707 million for 6 V-22 Ospreys, \$234 million for 527 Joint Light Tactical Vehicles, and \$162 million for 26 Amphibious Combat Vehicles.

Enhances the Capability of the U.S. Air Force

The *Budget* enhances the capability of the Air Force to provide a versatile strike force capable of rapid deployment worldwide. It includes \$5.4 billion for the procurement of 46 F-35As; \$2.9 billion for bomber programs, to include development of the new stealthy B-21 bomber; \$608 million for the procurement of seven special mission variants of the tactical C-130J transport aircraft; and \$1.0 billion for MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aircraft systems, including sensors, ground control stations, and communications equipment. The *Budget* also requests \$434 million for the Presidential Aircraft Recapitalization program, which will replace the current fleet of Air Force One aircraft. It accelerates Air Force efforts to improve air fleet readiness, ensure technical superiority, and repair aging infrastructure by including \$60 billion for Air Force operation and maintenance. The *Budget* also funds weapons system sustainment to full capacity, funds cyber activities, makes key upgrades to nuclear control systems, increases resources for family support programs, and supports training for 501,500 Active, Guard, and Reserve airmen. These key investments in maintenance capacity and training systems, along with the ongoing procurement of F-35 Joint Strike Fighters and other aircraft, will enable the Air Force to counter the growing number of complex threats from sophisticated state actors and transnational terrorist groups.

Implements Defense Reform

The *Budget* includes more than \$2 billion of savings from efficiencies and defense reforms, underscoring the President's commitment to reduce the costs of military programs and ensure DOD's resources are targeted to meet critical warfighting needs. The *Budget* also continues ongoing efforts to improve DOD's business processes, reduce major headquarters activities by 25 percent, and eliminate redundant spending on service contracts. Additionally, the *Budget* proposes a Base Realignment and Closure round in 2021 that will save \$2 billion or more per year starting in FY 2026.

Modernizes our Nuclear Deterrent

The *Budget* supports the nuclear weapon stockpile modernization program, nuclear nonproliferation and counter-proliferation activities, reactor development for naval propulsion, as well as the science and technology development that underlies all of this work. It continues the investments needed to recapitalize critical nuclear weapons infrastructure. Additionally, the Budget continues to support the DOD nuclear modernization programs to include the B61 tail kit modification, continued development of the Ground Based Strategic Deterrent, the Long Range Standoff missile, the Columbia Class ballistic missile submarine, and the B-21 bomber.