

COMMITTEE LANGUAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT)

ACCOUNT: APN

PRESBUD	HNSC	SASC	CASC	HAC	SAC	CAC
472,007	661,307	562,007	627,007	661,307	627,007	627,007

V-22 MEDIUM LIFT (AP-CY)

ACCOUNT: APN

PRESBUD	HNSC	SASC	CASC	HAC	SAC	CAC
69,659	69,659	69,659	62,124	69,959	62,124	62,124

V-22A

ACCOUNT: RDT&E

PRESBUD	HNSC	SASC	CASC	HAC	SAC	CAC
529,495	529,495	529,495	529,495	529,495	529,495	529,495

HNSC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-132)

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V-22

The budget request contained \$472.0 million to procure five V-22 aircraft and \$69.7 million for advance procurement of seven aircraft in fiscal year 1999.

The committee has been a strong supporter of accelerated V-22 procurement and endorses the recently-released Quadrennial Defense Review's (QDR) recommendation to achieve a long-term production rate of 30 aircraft per year by 2004. However, the committee notes that despite the fact that in fiscal year 1997 Congress appropriated advance procurement funding for 12 aircraft in fiscal year 1998, the Department has requested only five. Therefore, consistent with its prior actions, the recommendations of the QDR, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps' unfunded priorities for fiscal year 1998, the committee recommends an increase of \$189.3 million to procure two additional aircraft.

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Light strike vehicle

The budget request contained no funds for the light strike vehicle (LSV). The committee understands that there is an approved operational requirements document (ORD) for lightweight, high performance all-terrain vehicles for a number of critical

missions, such as special operations and forward reconnaissance in conventional operations.

The ORD requires an initial operational capability by fiscal year 2001. The committee is concerned that while the Commandant has emphasized the high priority of the V-22 Osprey to Marine combat capability, the Marine Corps currently has no viable ground vehicle that can be carried inside the Osprey. Current vehicles for these missions are reaching the end of their service life, are easily detected, and have limited mobility or are not internally transportable in the Osprey.

Accordingly, the committee recommends \$5.0 million in PE 26624M to begin the development of the LSV for both the Marine Corps and Special Operations Forces, and directs the Secretary of the Navy to report to the Congressional defense committees by November 30, 1997 the plan to field this critical warfighting asset.

SASC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-29)

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V-22 Osprey

The budget request for the V-22 was \$597.1 million for 5 MV-22 aircraft.

In fiscal year 1997 the committee encouraged the Department of Defense to accelerate the procurement of the MV-22 to reap the savings available from a more efficient rate of production. Unfortunately, the budget request for fiscal year 1998 did not follow the committee's encouragement, but followed its previous course of inefficient production and had to reprogram additional funds authorized and appropriated for advanced procurement into development to provide for a sufficient management reserve to continue the program on schedule more efficiently.

Noting the constrained circumstances in the near and far term, the committee is still persuaded that an addition to the procurement of MV-22s will result in efficiencies and increased capabilities for deployed Marines. Accordingly, the committee recommends an increase of \$90.0 million to the budget request to procure an additional MV-22 in fiscal year 1998.

HAC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-206)

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Major weapons programs: The Committee recommends fully funding the budget request for: The Army's Comanche helicopter, Crusader next-generation artillery system, and Force XXI/ digitization initiatives (although the Committee has realigned requested funding to more appropriate accounts); the Navy's production of 20 new F/A-18 E/F fighters, three DDG-51 destroyers, one New Attack Submarine, the overhaul of the U.S.S. Nimitz aircraft carrier, and the procurement of two LMSR sealift ships; and the Air Force's F-15 fighter and F-22 fighter programs. The Committee has also funded the requested number of Air Force C-17 transport aircraft; provided an additional nine C-130J variants over the budget request for the Marine Corps, Air Force, and Air National

Guard, pursuant to House authorization action; and the budget request for the Joint Strike Fighter.

The Committee has added funds over the request for: Army Blackhawk helicopters (a total of \$309,231,000 for 30 helicopters, \$126,000,000 and 12 helicopters more than requested) and Kiowa Warrior helicopters (\$151,700,000); the Navy E-2C airborne early warning aircraft (a total of \$304,474,000 for four aircraft, \$68,000,000 and one aircraft over the budget request); the Marine Corps V-22 tactical transport (a total of \$661,307,000 for seven aircraft, \$189,300,000 and two aircraft more than in the budget request), and advance procurement for the second LPD-17 amphibious ship (an increase of \$185,000,000 over the budget request); and the Air Force B-2 bomber (a total of \$505,286,000, an increase over the budget request of \$331,200,000, consistent with House authorization action), and F-16 fighter programs (\$82,500,000 and three aircraft more than the budget request).

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PROCUREMENT

The Committee recommends \$45,515,962,000 in new obligational authority for Procurement, an increase of \$3,930,784,000 over the fiscal year 1998 budget request. Major programs funded in the bill include:

- \$309,231,000 for 30 UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters
- \$474,832,000 for upgrades and modifications to Apache helicopters
- \$228,287,000 for 1,056 Hellfire missiles
- \$143,112,000 for 1,080 Javelin missiles
- \$240,591,000 for Bradley vehicle industrial base sustainment
- \$594,856,000 for upgrades to Abrams tanks
- \$209,446,000 for medium tactical vehicles
- \$302,164,000 for SINCGARS radios
- \$2,101,100,000 for 20 F/A-18 E/F fighter aircraft
- \$661,307,000 for 7 V-22 (Osprey) aircraft
- \$304,474,000 for 4 E-2C early warning aircraft
- \$243,960,000 for 12 T-45 trainer aircraft
- \$1,632,544,000 for the modification of naval aircraft
- \$181,092,000 for 127 Standard missiles
- \$2,314,903,000 for 1 new SSN attack submarine
- \$1,628,403,000 for 1 carrier refueling overhaul
- \$2,695,367,000 for 3 DDG-51 destroyers
- \$505,286,000 for B-2 aircraft
- \$159,000,000 for 3 F-15 fighter aircraft
- \$1,914,211,000 for 9 C-17 airlift aircraft
- \$1,464,861,000 for modification of Air Force aircraft
- \$107,168,000 for 173 AMRAAM missiles
- \$384,600,000 for Ballistic Missile Defense

SAC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-45)

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CH-60 helicopter advance procurement.—The Committee is aware of an advanced concept technology demonstration [ACTD] which evaluated commercial options for performing the vertical replenishment mission. While highlighted as a successful ACTD, the Navy's future plans to take advantage of commercial vertical replenishment services are not clear. Furthermore, the Committee understands that there has been a limited look at whether the V-22, which will soon be in the fleet, can perform remaining portions of the vertical replenishment mission.

With these factors in mind, the Committee has recommended deferral of \$31,837,000 requested for CH-60 advance procurement. The Committee believes that the Navy should develop a strategic plan for cost effectively meeting vertical replenishment requirements prior to proceeding with this \$2,600,000,000 helicopter procurement program.

CAC LANGUAGE (Rpt. 105-265)

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RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment; \$8,115,686,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 1999: Provided, That funds appropriated in this paragraph which are available for the V-22 may be used to meet unique requirements of the Special Operations Forces.

PUBLIC LAW 105-56

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RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

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