

**2009 AGAUS Mid-Winter
Resolutions/ Issue Tracking Sheet**

Resolution Subject

Air Force Recapitalization

Committee

Air Force Structure and Modernization

Is there a written policy/position paper for this issue? Yes No

AGAUS Supports Does Not Support The Program/Activity as stated

The members of AGAUS have closely reviewed the writings of Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and agree that the military must put forth a Balanced Force. The following conclusions are the result of a series of in depth meetings held during the month of February, 2009:

- 1. Should the decision to proceed to purchase additional F-22s, AGAUS will urge the Congress to support the buy with the understanding that a buy of at least 60 will result in the equipping of 2-18 PAA ANG Squadrons using the Active Associate construct.**
- 2. AGAUS further believes that the Hi-Lo option offered by the pairing of the F-22 and the F-35 serves a credible deterrent to adversaries as it leaves no doubt that the US intends to maintain its position of Air Dominance and that the Air Force will be able to assure that ground options always remain open to military decision makers. The total buy and rate of production may be restricted by budget pressures, however we believe that the fielding of the aircraft must stay on pace and that a rate of production of less than 110/yr will be inefficient - and in the end much more costly. Since the F-35 will replace the F-16 in Air National Guard units that are the primary force in the Homeland Defense Air Sovereignty Alert mission, and since many of those aircraft are the first facing mandatory flight restriction retirement, it is critical that the Air National Guard be equipped at the front end and continuously throughout the fielding plan.**
- 3. The SECDEF's remarks about a Balanced Force also signal the need to closely examine additional options to support counter insurgency operations and to build partner capacity. An OA-X should be pursued and options for fielding the MC-12 should include dispersing them to ANG and AD units that also fly unmanned ISR assets. Any aircraft procured should become a foundation for working with other nations to Build Partnership Capacity.**
- 4. Since 2007 the Congress has added 10 C-17 aircraft in 2007, 15 in 2008 and**

discussions will continue in both the 2009 supplemental and the 2010 budget. AGAUS supports a minimum of 15 more C-17's and believes that they should be used to equip ARC units using an Active Associate construct.

5. The C-27 has been validated by the Congressionally driven roles and missions discussion and AGAUS believes this is a critical aircraft for supporting both the overseas warfight and the homeland defense mission. AGAUS requests that the current plans to field the aircraft not be altered, assuring that a minimum of 48 are delivered to the Army National Guard and a minimum of 24 aircraft to the Air National Guard.

The result of all of our analysis regarding the best route forward for the USAF is that a concurrent and proportional fielding of new weapon systems in both the Active Duty and the Air National Guard, using the Active Associate Construct, best leverages access to the equipment and the experience and community based roots of the Air National Guard. This provides the most efficient expenditure of defense dollars since it requires fewer Active Duty Bases which cost much more than Air Guard installations and takes advantage of the true citizen airman that only cost the taxpayer when the airman is called away from his civilian duty to answer the nations call.

Additional comments by Committee Members:

Committee POC
(Name/Ofc Sym)

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SPC Comments:

Presidents Comments:

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