

Marine Corps Hornet and Harrier aircraft.

Proposed Action

The proposed action would base and operate a total of 12 F-35B (the Marine Corps variant of the JSF) squadrons at MCAS Miramar and MCAS Yuma. The decision would include the basing of 10 active-duty squadrons, 1 Reserve squadron, and 1 Operational Testing and Evaluation (OT&E) squadron. The F-35B is a next generation, stealth, supersonic, multi-role fighter aircraft that will replace aging Marine Corps fleets of F-18 A/C/D Hornets and AV-8B Harriers in the 3rd and 4th Marine Air Wings.

Purpose and Need

To meet any crisis or conflict that may arise both now and into the future, Marine Corps Aviation must be manned, trained, and equipped to conduct world-wide air combat operations. For this reason, technological superiority in its air fleet is an essential requirement. The purpose of the proposed action, therefore, is to provide state-of-the-art F-35B aircraft to Marine Corps fleets by replacing aging aircraft inventories. The basing action would provide both the facilities and functions to support and maintain these new aircraft as well as the airfields, airspace, and ranges to train air crews in these next-generation aircraft. The EIS may develop the need for new missions on the Barry M. Goldwater range and/or identify the need and location for additional special use airspace to support JSF training functions.

Preliminary Alternatives

The Marine Corps developed a range of reasonable basing alternatives in a three-tiered alternatives development process. The process applied the purpose and need to identify potential sites that could maximize JSF integration into existing Marine Air Ground Task Force organizations, maximize utilization of existing infrastructure and provide efficient use of existing ranges. The alternative development process identified five preliminary basing alternatives. These alternatives distribute differing combinations of the F-35B active-duty, reserve, and OT&E squadrons between MCAS Miramar and MCAS Yuma. The basing alternatives include:

- No-action alternative, where F-35B aircraft would not replace F-18A/C/D and AV-8B squadrons at MCAS Miramar and MCAS Yuma. The no-action alternative, while required by NEPA in order to measure potential impacts, would not meet the purpose

and need of the proposed action and would prevent the Marine Corps from fulfilling its assigned combat missions.

- *Alternative 1* would base six squadrons at MCAS Miramar, and five squadrons and one OT&E squadron at MCAS Yuma.
- *Alternative 2* would base four squadrons at MCAS Miramar, and seven squadrons and one OT&E squadron at MCAS Yuma.
- *Alternative 3* would base seven squadrons and one OT&E squadron at MCAS Miramar, and four squadrons at MCAS Yuma.
- *Alternative 4* would base one squadron and one OT&E squadron at MCAS Miramar, and ten squadrons at MCAS Yuma.
- *Alternative 5* would base ten squadrons at MCAS Miramar, and one squadron and one OT&E squadron at MCAS Yuma.

Environmental Issues and Resources To Be Examined

The EIS will evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with each of the above alternatives. Issues to be addressed include, but are not limited to, biological resources, historic and archaeological resources, geology and soils, hydrology, water quality, air quality, noise, safety, hazardous materials and waste, visual resources, socioeconomic, and environmental justice. Relevant and reasonable measures that could avoid or mitigate environmental effects will also be analyzed.

Additionally, the Marine Corps will undertake any consultations required by the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and any other applicable law or regulation.

EIS Schedule

This Notice of Intent is the first phase of the EIS process and announces the beginning of the public comment period to identify community concerns and local issues that should be addressed in the EIS. The next phase occurs when the Department of the Navy publishes a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the **Federal Register** and local media to publicly release the Draft EIS. A 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIS will start upon publication of the NOA in the **Federal Register**. The Department of the Navy will consider and respond to all public comments received on the Draft EIS when preparing for the Final EIS. The Department of the Navy intends to issue the Final EIS no later than October 2010, at which time an NOA will be published in the **Federal Register** and local media. A 30-day

waiting period will start upon publication of the NOA for the Final EIS in the **Federal Register**. At the end of this period, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy will issue a Record of Decision.

Dated: January 12, 2009.

A.M. Vallandingham,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate Generals Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Partially Closed Meeting of the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Partially Closed Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Advisory Panel will meet to discuss recommendations for Military Program Managers in the Department of the Navy and strategies related to a classified topic.

DATES: The meeting will be held on February 6, 2009 from 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The morning sessions from 8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on February 6, 2009, will be open to the public, and the afternoon sessions from 10:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. on February 6, 2009, will be closed to the public.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Room 1E840, in the Pentagon.

Access: Public access is limited due to the Pentagon Security requirements. Any individual wishing to attend will need to contact LCDR Miriam Smyth at (703) 695-3573 or CDR Cary Knox at (703) 693-0463 no later than January 30, 2009. Members of the public who do not have Pentagon access will be required provide Name, Date of Birth and Social Security number by January 30, 2009 in order to obtain a visitor badge. Public transportation is recommended as public parking is not available. Members of the public wishing to attend this event must enter through the Pentagon's Metro Entrance between 8:45 a.m. and 9 a.m. At this entrance, they will be required to present two forms of identification in order to receive a visitors badge and meet their escort. Members obtaining visitor badges will then be escorted to Room 1E840 to attend the open sessions of the Advisory Panel. Members of the Public shall remain with designated escorts at all times while on the Pentagon

Reservation. Members of the public will be escorted back to the Pentagon Metro Entrance at 10:30 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colonel Caroline Simkins-Mullins, SECNAV Advisory Panel, Office of Program and Process Assessment 1000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350, (703) 697-9154.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), the matters of these classified sessions constitute classified information that is specifically authorized by Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense and are, in fact, properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order. Accordingly, the Secretary of the Navy has determined in writing that the public interest requires that portions of this meeting be closed to the public because they will be concerned with matters listed in section 552b(c)(1) of Title 5, United States Code.

Individuals or interested groups may submit written statements for consideration by the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel at any time or in response to the agenda of a scheduled meeting. All requests must be submitted to the Designated Federal Officer at the address detailed below.

If the written statement is in response to the agenda mentioned in this meeting notice then the statement, if it is to be considered by the Panel for this meeting, must be received at least five days prior to the meeting in question.

The Designated Federal Officer will review all timely submissions with the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel Chairperson, and ensure they are provided to members of the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel before the meeting that is the subject of this notice.

To contact the Designated Federal Officer, write to: Designated Federal Officer, SECNAV Advisory Panel, Office of Program and Process Assessment 1000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350, (703) 697-9154.

Dated: January 12, 2009.

T.M. Cruz,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-727 Filed 1-14-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 17, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Education Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: January 12, 2009.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Office of Innovation and Improvement

Type of Review: New.

Title: Transition to Teaching Evaluation.

Frequency: Other-At the end of the third year and end of final year of the TTT grant.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 45.

Burden Hours: 45.

Abstract: This is a request for approval to collect information from Transition to Teaching (TTT) grantees that will be used to describe the extent to which local education agencies that received TTT grant funds have met the goals relating to teacher recruitment and retention described in their application. TTT grantees are funded for a period of five years. Currently, grantees are required by statute to submit an interim project evaluation to ED at the end of the third project year and a final project evaluation at the project's end. In turn, the TTT program is required to prepare and submit to the Secretary and to Congress interim and final program evaluations containing the results of these grantee project evaluation reports. An analysis of these reports has provided some data on grantee activities, but the poor quality of some reports and missing or incomplete data in others have made it difficult to aggregate data across grantees in order to accurately describe to Congress the extent of program implementation. This proposed data collection would allow ED to gather data on a common set of indicators across grantees to describe program implementation, and to investigate the conditions under which projects have been successful at recruiting, preparing and retaining highly qualified teachers in high-need schools in high-need LEAs.

Requests for copies of the information collection submission for OMB review may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 3908. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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