



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
(WARFARE REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAMS), 20350-2000
DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR AVIATION,
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS, 20380-1775
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
(WARFARE REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAMS)
AND
DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR AVIATION, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY TACTICAL AIRCRAFT INTEGRATION

Ref: (a) Navy/Marine Corps TacAir Integration Memorandum of Understanding dtd
14 August 2002
(b) Defense Planning Guidance for FY 2003-2007 dtd 30 August 2001
(c) USN/USMC Memorandum of Agreement dtd 14 Feb 1997

Encl: (1) Integration Timeline

1. **Scope.** This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) serves as an instrument for implementing reference (a) and the results of a comprehensive review to assess the feasibility of integrating all of Naval Aviation force structure per reference (b). As a result of this review, the Navy and the Marine Corps will integrate Tactical Aircraft (TacAir) forces to provide Combatant Commanders and joint forces with flexible, responsive, interoperable and expeditionary forces to support deployed and surge operations.
2. **Previous DoN TacAir MOA.** This MOA supercedes the current TacAir integration MOA (reference (c)) between the Navy and the Marine Corps.
3. **DoN TACAIR Integration Vision.** Our vision merges Navy and Marine Corps TacAir into a seamless Naval Aviation force at sea and ashore. Naval Aviation force projection will be accomplished by the increased integration of Marine Corps TacAir squadrons into Carrier Air Wings and the integration of Navy squadrons into Marine Aircraft Wings. The goal is to exploit revolutionary Network Centric Warfare and Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare concepts to enhance power projection by tightly integrating Carrier Strike Groups, Expeditionary Strike Groups, and Marine Air-Ground Task Forces (MAGTFs). The successful integration of Naval Aviation provides the framework for the Navy and Marine Corps to further enhance core combat capabilities to provide a more potent, cohesive fighting force that is affordable. The strengths of both Services have enabled our ability to project and sustain power ashore from sovereign flight

decks and austere expeditionary bases with forward-deployed forces. TacAir integration provides the DoN with the flexibility to employ sea-based squadrons and move those squadrons ashore when required, and surge both Navy and Marine Corps non-deployed squadrons to project dominant and decisive offensive power from the sea or ashore in support of Combatant Commanders and joint force objectives.

4. **Active TacAir Force Structure**

a. This agreement establishes the requirement for the Marine Corps to integrate four additional F/A-18 squadrons into the Carrier Air Wing rotation prior to 2008. Concurrently, the Navy will integrate 3 F/A-18 squadrons into Marine Aircraft Wings to support the Marine Unit Deployment Program (UDP) rotation, and decommission one F/A-18 squadron. Integration will commence in 2003.

b. Two additional Marine Corps F/A-18 squadrons will be integrated into Carrier Air Wings in conjunction with two Navy F/A-18 squadron decommissions at dates to be determined in the PR05 budget cycle.

c. In 2004, Navy F/A-18 squadron Primary Aircraft Authorized (PAA) will be reduced from 12 to 10 aircraft for all Carrier Air Wing squadrons except those identified to transition to F/A-18E/F and support Marine Corps UDP (exceptions remain at 12 PAA).

d. Marine Corps F/A-18 squadron PAA will be reduced from 12 to 10 aircraft as each squadron is integrated into the Carrier Air Wing. The four F/A-18 squadrons already integrated into its respective Carrier Air Wing will reduce PAA to 10 aircraft in 2004. Marine Corps UDP squadrons will remain at 12 aircraft. AV-8B PAA will remain at 16 aircraft. AV-8B PAA requirement will be reviewed as part of the PR05 budget cycle.

5. **Reserve TacAir Force Structure**

a. One Navy and one Marine Corps F/A-18 Reserve squadron will be decommissioned in 2004. In 2006, PAA for the remaining two Navy and three Marine Corps squadrons will be reduced from 12 to 10 PAA.

b. One USMCR F/A-18 squadron is provided for integration into the USN Reserve Air Wing (CVWR). Units of the Reserve Air Wing will support Marine exercises in concert with CNO prescribed readiness levels and fleet contributory support obligations. USMCR squadrons will continue to support MAGTF contingency and training requirements in concert with CMC prescribed readiness levels. The CVWR integrated USMCR squadron will effect change of operational control (CHOP) to the Reserve Air Wing during annual training. Otherwise, the CVWR integrated USMCR squadron will remain ADCON/OPCON to the USMCR.

6. **OPCON**. The DoN will satisfy both Navy and Marine Corps commitments with Navy or Marine Corps squadrons. The DoN will out-CHOP integrated squadrons, if needed, to meet those requirements. CHOP for Navy squadrons satisfying Marine Corps commitments and Marine Corps squadrons satisfying Navy commitments will generally occur six to nine months

prior to deployment and continue until one month after deployment. Actual dates will be established via Letter of Instruction between the respective TYCOM/MARFOR.

7. **Training.** Navy and Marine Corps squadrons will be available for all required Carrier Air Wing and MAGTF training. TYCOMs/MARFORs are responsible for developing schedules and supporting training requirements.

8. **Funding**

a. Funding for scheduled deployments and training will be programmed within the POM by the respective Service and allocated by the TYCOM/MARFOR for distribution to perform the mission.

b. Readiness, aircraft modifications, depot and spares funding will be adjusted to facilitate the execution of the Integration Operational Concept and mitigate the risk of a smaller strike fighter force. The Flying Hour Program will be funded to level T2.2 readiness for USN squadrons and to Marine Aviation Campaign Plan (MACP) levels for USMC squadrons. This will enable both Services to surge/rapidly deploy and employ DoN non-deployed strike fighter assets in support of contingency and wartime requirements.

9. **PERSTEMPO/OPTEMPO.** Service Chiefs' PERSTEMPO policies will be used to establish a common PERSTEMPO/OPTEMPO for both Navy and Marine Corps squadrons. For scheduling purposes, a nominal deployment length of six months and a minimum turnaround ratio of 2:1 (12 months) will be used. Flexibility to exchange squadrons in the Carrier Air Wing or Marine Aircraft Wing rotation is left to the discretion of the TYCOM/MARFOR for purposes of PERSTEMPO/OPTEMPO relief.

10. **Manpower & Personnel.** Squadron billet structures between the Navy and Marine Corps differ. End strength and manpower funding (MPN) will be adjusted between the Services to support the Integration Operational Concept. In the interim, USN agrees to provide maintenance and support personnel, as needed, to each Marine Corps F/A-18 squadron that is integrated into the Carrier Air Wing. The additional manning requirements for maintenance and support personnel for each integrating squadron will be determined by the TacAir Integration Team no later than one year prior to deployment. Additionally, the TacAir Integration Team, in conjunction with the Navy Bureau of Personnel and Marine Corps Manpower and Reserve Affairs, will recommend the appropriate level of officer exchanges (CVW and MAG staffs), to include command opportunities, by 1 March 2003.

11. **Action**

a. The Navy and Marine Corps agree to form an TacAir Integration Team that is chartered to review all aspects and issues of the integration plan and conduct detailed execution planning per enclosure (1) that includes, but is not limited to, manpower, funding, scheduling, operational commitments, training and aircraft inventory management. The TacAir Integration Team will include all stakeholders and be co-chaired by Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Pacific Fleet, Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Commander, Marine Forces Pacific and Commander, Marine Forces Atlantic. The TacAir Integration Team will provide a

semi-annual report that includes recommendations to the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Chief of Naval Operations.

b. This MOA will be reviewed annually by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Warfare Requirements and Programs), and the Deputy Commandant for Aviation, United States Marine Corps. The primary purpose of the review will be to approve a three-year schedule for TacAir squadrons in support of Navy and Marine Corps commitments. The three-year schedule will be approved by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Operations) and the Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations, United States Marine Corps and published via Naval Message.

c. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Warfare Requirements and Programs), and the Deputy Commandant for Aviation, United States Marine Corps are responsible for the execution of this agreement.



W. L. NYLAND
Lieutenant General, U.S. Marine Corps



D. V. MCGINN
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy



Integration Schedule

