

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AVIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE ARMY

These terms of reference establish Secretary of Defense objectives for an independent subcommittee review of the transfer of Army National Guard AH-64 Apache aircraft from the Army National Guard to the Regular Army. Subcommittee members are appointed according to Department of Defense policy and procedures by the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense for a term of service not to exceed May 1, 2016. Membership balance and consideration of points of views is achieved using the same expertise and points of views required for the National Commission on the Future of the Army (“the Army Commission”).

Mission Statement: Accomplish an independent assessment of the transfer of Army National Guard AH-64 Apache aircraft from the Army National Guard to the Regular Army to support the mission of the Army Commission.

Objectives and Scope: The Aviation Subcommittee (“the Subcommittee”) shall conduct a study on the transfer of Army National Guard AH-64 Apache aircraft from the Army National Guard to the regular Army. The study will consider:

- Depth and scalability, cost-efficiency between the components;
- Strengths, limitations, and capabilities of each component;
- “Peacetime rotation” force to avoid exceeding operational tempo goals of 1:2 for Regular Army and 1:5 for members of the Army National Guard and Army Reserves;
- Minimizing risk within and across readiness, efficiency, effectiveness, capability, and affordability;
- Adjusting policies affecting readiness; training; equipment; personnel; and maintenance of the reserve components as an operational reserve.

Methodology: The Subcommittee will:

1. conduct its assessment in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C. Appendix, as amended) and other relevant statutes;
2. focus its assessment on the statutes, strategy, policies, procedures, and processes currently in place to determine Army aviation force structure;
3. propose, as appropriate, modifications to the Army aviation structure for AH-64 aircraft related to current and anticipated Army mission requirements at acceptable levels of national risk and in a manner consistent with available resources and anticipated future resources;
4. access, consistent with law, documents or people from any Federal department or agency which the Subcommittee deems necessary to complete its task;
5. review, as appropriate, the results of past and recent examinations and studies of Army aviation force structure composition and mix, to include investigative reports and reference materials provided by any organization; and
6. conduct interviews or seek input from other sources with pertinent knowledge or experience, as appropriate.

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Deliverable: It is estimated that the subcommittee will complete its work and provide final proposals to the Army Commission no later than October 31, 2015, but the Subcommittee will provide periodic updates to the Army Commissions on its work, as appropriate.

Support: The staff of the Army Commission will provide support to the Subcommittee, in consultation with Washington Headquarters Services and other Federal organizations as required.