

STATEMENT OF
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JOINT WARFIGHTING CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT
AND
DIRECTOR, JOINT REQUIREMENTS OFFICE,
CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR DEFENSE
BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL SECURITY, VETERAN AFFAIRS, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
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Mr Chairman, approximately two months ago, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff established a Joint Requirements Office for CBRN Defense within the J-8 directorate of the joint staff. The Chairman's approval included a specific charter, a manning document, and an implementation plan for the JRO. I am assigned the additional duty to serve as Director of this JRO.

The JROC-approved JRO Charter calls for a single office responsible for the planning, coordination, and oversight of joint CBRN defense requirements and to serve as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's single source of expertise in addressing CBRN defense issues involving the warfight, force protection and Homeland Security. The Office's chartered responsibilities include developing and maintaining a CBRN defense Overarching Operational Concept and CBRN Defense Modernization Plan; representing the Services and combatant commanders in the requirements generation process; acting as their proponent for coordinating and integrating CBRN defense operational capabilities; developing a Department of Defense Chem-Bio Defense Program Objective Memorandum, in coordination with the acquisition community; and facilitate the development of joint and multi-service doctrine.

The organizational structure calls for an office of 32 DoD and contractor personnel serving four mission areas of analysis and demonstration, mission area integration, materiel requirements, and doctrine and training development. Some of these personnel will be in joint billets and some in service billets however they will serve as one integrated team. Each of the Services as well as the U.S. Coast Guard are contributing billets and personnel to this effort. These officers will provide initial Service input into all tasks executed by the JRO. Their presence ensures a fully integrated and joint program where the Services' concerns and equities are heard within the requirements generation process. This is a significant change from the previous arrangement.

The JROC specifically approved the processes the JRO would use in developing the Chem-Bio Defense POM and generating requirements as follows:

First, the JRO will develop and present to the JROC for approval a prioritized list of joint capabilities. Development and prioritization of this capabilities list will depend on input from the Services and combatant commanders. Once approved by the JROC, this list will be provided to the acquisition community for developing a draft POM. Once complete, the draft POM will then be returned to the JRO for review and submission to the Secretary of the Army in his role as Executive Agent and in compliance with Public Law. The Secretary of the Army will then submit the POM to OSD.

Second, requirements generation will remain the duty of the Services as part of their Title X responsibilities, however the JRO will be responsible to ensure Service identified requirements fit into the joint warfighting operational architecture. The JRO will accomplish this by developing and maintaining the overarching joint CBRN operational concept I mentioned earlier. This concept will provide the basis for all future CBRN defense operational capabilities and be part of the overall Joint Warfighting Concept. The CBRN operational concept will also provide the basis for the analysis required in developing requirements documents.

The JRO will then coordinate and facilitate integration of Service requirements into joint operational requirements through the use of Integrated Concept Teams (ICTs). Membership on these Teams will include, as a minimum, representation from the Service combat developers, and the intelligence, acquisition, and the testing and evaluation communities. Using these ICTs should ensure that all the operational requirement documents (ORDs) are fully integrated in the development process. Once the ORD is developed, the Services will validate it and approve their respective annex. Approval of all ACAT 1 ORDs rests with the JROC. The JROC delegated approval for all others to the Director, J-8.

The JRO is in the process of establishing itself now. It has acquired office space near the Pentagon and is in the process of "setting up shop." Personnel are currently being assigned. As of today, the Deputy Director, four Service representatives, and several contractors are "on-board" and working issues in support of CBRN defense for the Services and the combatant commanders. It is our hope that we will be fully functional within the next several months.

CBRN weapons present a potentially lethal risk to Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines on future battlefields. It is our intent as the Joint Requirements Office for CBRN Defense to step forward with an aggressive program to properly identify the requirements for these their protection and sustainment.