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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

JCSM-607-67

6 November 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Revised Southeast Asia Air Munitions Requirements Through CY 1968 (U)

1. [redacted] The Joint Chiefs of Staff forward herewith the CINCPAC letter, 3B211 Serial 002044, subject: "Revised PACOM Modern Air Munition Requirements Through CY 68 Based on Program #5 (U)," dated 23 October 1967. CINCPAC requirements for air munitions through CY 1968 are based on Program #5 forces and sortie capabilities derived from agreed upon planning factors. The combat sortie allocations by Service and by country are a best estimate considering past performance data and the CINCPAC concept for air operations in Southeast Asia through CY 1968. A CINCPAC nonnuclear air munitions conference was conducted during the week of 18 September 1967 to establish Southeast Asia air munitions requirements through CY 1968. Representatives from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, and the Services were in attendance.

2. [redacted] The CINCPAC revised requirements for air munitions total approximately 100,000 tons per month, which approximate present stated requirements. The revised tonnage requirement includes several new or improved munition types which may not be available in sufficient quantities during the next few months. CINCPAC allocations, based on indicated production availability, are expected to be established at approximately 92,000 tons per month through CY 1968. Specific comments are provided in the Appendix on munition items of particular concern during the period.

3. [redacted] The Office of the Secretary of Defense currently approved air munitions production schedule provides for approximately 100,000 tons per month, gradually decreasing to approximately 85,000 tons per month by August 1968, and provides an option,

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to be exercised by 1 January 1968, to provide an additional 50,000 tons during the period February through December 1968. The production schedule appears capable of supporting a level based on CINCPAC past expenditures on a gross tonnage basis. However, this is not the case on an individual item basis, particularly when considering newer munitions, or when considering CINCPAC projected requirements through CY 1968.

4. [redacted] The total Southeast Asia munition requirements for Program #5 forces for CY 1968 indicate a small increase over Program #4 requirements. This increase is due primarily to add-on forces which will generate approximately 2,000 additional sorties per month. Thus, Southeast Asia combat sortie generation capability will average 34,000 sorties per month through CY 1968. The added F-4 aircraft are capable of carrying four tons of ordnance per sortie, and the additional numbers of A-6A aircraft also increase the average tons of ordnance per sortie.

5. (S) The quantities of munitions specified by CINCPAC will support the following average tons per sortie tactical loading through CY 1968:

a. PACAF	2.13
b. PACFLT	2.25
c. FMFPAC (Less UH-1)	2.68
d. VNAF	1.73

6. [redacted] Employment of combat aircraft sorties against NVN as an adjunct to ground, sea, and air operations in SVN must make full use of air power to reduce US/FWMF casualties and reduce the capability of North Vietnam to wage war against South Vietnam. Further, the employment of aircraft against North Vietnam has as an objective the highly selective damage to military targets with minimum damage to adjacent areas and populace. Of major importance to the efficiency of the air effort is the timely availability of the preferred munitions. Particular emphasis is required on the increased availability of heavy bombs, weapons with a high degree of accuracy, flak suppression weapons, improved interdiction munitions, and area denial weapons. The realization of improved capabilities will require greater efforts on certain new and improved munitions in development or initially entering production.

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7. [redacted] Although JCSM-554-67, dated 14 October 1967, subject: "Increased B-52 Capability in Southeast Asia (U)," recommended the B-52 sortie rate remain at least 800 sorties per month, the memorandum requested provisions be made for a surge capability of 1,200 sorties per month. The B-52 bomb requirements, approximately 29 tons per sortie, shown in the Appendix, are based on 800 sorties per month. The additional MK-82/M-117 bomb requirements to support the B-52 surge capability are also addressed in the Appendix.

8. [redacted] Adjustments to CINCPAC stated requirements are made on the following items:

a. MUSCLE SHOALS requirements for items indicated below represent a one-for-one trade-off with PACAF upon decision to execute MUSCLE SHOALS and are not considered additive:

MUNITIONS	MUSCLE SHOALS MONTHLY REQUIREMENT
BLU-31	200
CBU-28/37	729
CBU-33	80
CBU-34/42	*425

* MUSCLE SHOALS requirements for this item are under review by DCPG and CINCPAC.

b. MK-75 MOD Kit - The Joint Chiefs of Staff have, by separate action, concurred in the CINCPAC recommendation for 15,000 kits per month. The MUSCLE SHOALS requirement, starting at 510 and decreasing to 390 per month when BLU-31 and CBU-33 become available, represents a one-for-one trade-off with PACAF requirements upon decision to execute MUSCLE SHOALS and is not considered additive.

c. Button Bomblet and GRAVEL - These munitions are required for MUSCLE SHOALS only.

d. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have recommended to the Secretary of Defense, by separate action, that production of the MK-83 be reinstated. The CINCPAC stated requirement for 10,585 per month is allocated on the basis of 7,385 PACAF, 3,200 PACFLT/Marine. An additional 2,826 are required for PACFLT/Marine use when a retard device becomes available. The Air Force is studying the requirement for PACAF but supports the Navy/Marine need at this time. The Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend immediate reinstatement of production to meet Navy/Marine requirements, including pipeline and training, as soon as possible.

e. SHRIKE/STANDARD ARM requirements and recommendations are being addressed by separate action. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have forwarded the 26 October 1967, Deputy Secretary of Defense-approved antiradiation missile program to CINCPAC for review and comments.

9. The Joint Chiefs of Staff validate CINCPAC air munitions requirements through CY 1968 as adjusted in paragraph 8, above. Additionally, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend specific action be taken on an urgent basis to provide sufficient quantities of the following munitions to meet Southeast Asia requirements.

a. BLU-34 - Development priority should be continued in order to obtain this heavy bomb. A production level should then be established to provide 500 per month availability. Heavy bomb rationing must be continued until the BLU-34 availability is assured in Southeast Asia.

b. WALLEYE - Availability of 600 per month of this highly accurate weapon is essential for the North Vietnam air effort. Continued development is recommended for other weapons such as the guided MK-84 bomb to provide improved accuracies and greater kill capabilities against hard targets.

c. Defense Suppression Weapons - Defense suppression is becoming increasingly critical to insure the capability of strike forces to attack highly defended North Vietnam targets with a minimum of losses. Availability of 1,921 CBU-29 munitions per month and expeditious development of AGM-12E are recommended for this purpose in North Vietnam.

d. Area Denial Weapons - The capability to maintain a constant presence is an integral part of an effective interdiction and harassment campaign. These weapons, some developed for MUSCLE SHOALS, are required in the quantities set forth in CINCPAC and MUSCLE SHOALS requirements.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

J. S. COBB
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director, Joint Staff

Attachments

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APPENDIX

LOGISTIC CONSIDERATIONS OF CINCPAC REQUIREMENTS

1. [redacted] A forecast of the status of Southeast Asia air munitions over the next 12 months based on CINCPAC's revised requirements, which do not include provision for increase in B-52 sorties above 800 per month, indicates the following (expressed in thousands of tons):

MONTH	PROD	W.W. TRNG	CINCPAC ALLOC EXP	CINCPAC STATED RQMT	IN STOCK AT ALLOC EXP	STOCK OBJ AT ST RQMT	MUSCLE SHOALS RQMT
Oct67	99.2	5.6	93.7	100.1	238.2	150.0	2.80
Nov	97.1	5.9	93.3	100.3	212.0	150.3	4.23
Dec	95.0	5.9	93.2	100.2	173.8	150.2	5.25
Jan68	95.1	5.9	93.0	98.6	163.7	147.8	6.55
Feb	90.2	5.9	92.6	98.7	155.9	147.9	4.90
Mar	89.3	5.6	92.7	98.7	153.8	147.9	4.90
Apr	89.7	5.6	92.6	98.8	134.2	148.0	4.90
May	90.0	5.6	92.3	99.4	127.5	149.0	3.20
Jun	86.4	5.6	92.4	99.4	115.2	149.0	3.23
Jul	84.5	5.6	92.4	99.4	107.8	149.0	3.28
Aug	84.5	5.6	92.4	99.4	100.1	149.0	3.28
Sep	84.5	5.6	92.5	99.4	89.5	149.0	3.28

(These figures will be reflected in the forthcoming publication of the JCS Southeast Asia Air Munitions Inventory Forecast which will include a detailed analysis of each item discussed below.)

2. [redacted] The JCS Reserve is forecast to have approximately 35,000 tons on hand by September 1968 after necessary withdrawals have been made for the following: support of Southeast Asia expenditures: the Secretary of Defense approved buildup of EUCOM and PACOM pre-positioned war reserves; and support of MUSCLE SHOALS requirements, upon execution.

GROUP 3
DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS:
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3. [redacted] An analysis of the forecast indicates that, if CINCPAC expends at the allocated rate, production less worldwide training will be increasingly insufficient to satisfy forecast Southeast Asia expenditures from December 1967 forward on some items.

4. [redacted] A review of individual munition items indicates the following:

a. The MK-82 bomb forecast of SEAsia on hand levels drops below 45 days in May 1968 after satisfying approved buildup of war reserves. This factor plus the recommended buildup to support a B-52 surge capability merits consideration of increased production of this munition. The B-52 surge capability of 1,200 sorties per month for 60 days requires 63,180 bombs. Production should be established at a level of approximately 167,000 MK-82s per month commencing in January 1968 to continue the approved buildup of war reserves, support the B-52 surge capability, and planned CINCPAC expenditures.

b. The M-117 bomb production provides for buildup of approved war reserves by December 1967 but is insufficient to support SEA expenditures throughout CY 68 or to provide support for the B-52 surge capability. The present M-117 production schedule should be increased by 3,000 bombs per month commencing in January 1968. The production increase, with planned accruals to the JCS reserve, will provide for approved buildup of war reserves, provide for the B-52 surge capability requiring a total of 17,970 M-117 bombs, and CINCPAC planned expenditures. The M-117 production schedule recommended* in JCSM 554-67 has been reduced, as indicated above, as a result of CINCPAC adjustments in M-117 allocations. This munition is also being used as a substitute for the MK-83, BLU-31, and the CBU-2.

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c. The MK-84 bomb production has been reduced to 1,500 per month which will preclude CINCPAC's attaining the 45-day stockage level, while expending assets as planned. Production of this munition should be increased to 1,800 bombs a month as soon as possible to satisfy planned SEAsia monthly expenditures and accomplish the build-up of SEAsia assets to the 45-day stockage objective.

d. The BLU-31 is experiencing fuze well problems which preclude completion of satisfactory test and evaluation. Production of this item should be programmed at 1,500 per month as soon as possible to satisfy stockage objective and expenditure requirements. In the interim, the M-117 is required as a substitute which is reflected in CINCPAC requirements.

e. The CBU-28 (DRAGONTOOTH) production does not meet CINCPAC and MUSCLE SHOALS requirements. Increased production will be recommended as soon as final design is agreed upon.

f. CBU-24/29 - There is a requirement for 3,000 CBU-24/29 per month for MUSCLE SHOALS upon execute. Production of the CBU-29 does not meet CINCPAC's stated requirement or programmed expenditures. Increased production of CBU-29 to a quantity of 1,921 a month as soon as possible is required.

g. The CBU-33 is not scheduled for production until July 1968. Action be taken to expedite test, evaluation, and delivery of this munition to satisfy CINCPAC and MUSCLE SHOALS requirements which are 600 per month.

h. The CBU-34 (WAAPM) production should be programmed at 625 per month to support both CINCPAC and MUSCLE SHOALS requirements. This item is currently in test and evaluation. MUSCLE SHOALS requirement for this item is under review by DCPG and CINCPAC.

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i. The AGM-12E (BULLPUP) test and development should be expedited in order to provide for its early employment in Southeast Asia at the CINCPAC requirement for 100 per month.

j. The WALLEYE programmed production delivery rate does not meet CINCPAC-stated requirements. Action should be continued to assure that a production rate of 600 a month is reached as soon as possible by expediting obtainment of additional contractor support.

k. The AGM-78 STANDARD ARM MOD 1 test and evaluation should be expedited in order to meet CINCPAC's stated requirements for this weapon.

l. An ADU-272 (Dispenser Munition) production increase to 3,270 a month is required as soon as possible to meet CINCPAC's requirements.

m. The 7.62mm cartridge production for air-to-ground use should be increase immediately to a level of 7,778,000 rounds per month to satisfy CINCPAC-stated requirements and increased stockage objective.

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