

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20330-1000

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of Air Force Top Two BRAC Focus Session, 13 Jan 04

SecAF called the meeting to order at 1005 in his office. Although described up front as a deliberative session, the session proved to be discussion only. Mr. Gibbs characterized the meeting as his opportunity to update SecAF / CSAF on military value (MV) determination for BRAC 2005 and prepare to present a BRAC MV discussion at CORONA South. Maj Gen Heckman led the discussion, beginning with an overview of the BRAC timeline, the strategic approach to MV determination, and a look at Checkmate's briefing on the Expeditionary AF Principles white paper. There were no substantive concerns with the methodology, process, and attributes. SecAF / CSAF did have some comments on the proposed attribute "buckets" and on the expeditionary principles. Specifically,

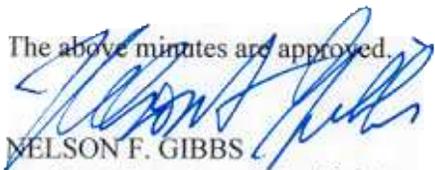
- Regarding the proposed MV Attributes, modify the "C4I and Bandwidth" attribute to refer more to electromagnetic issues vice C4I and bandwidth to make it more inclusive and more closely tied to MV. Modify the "Location" attribute to include flexibility and proximity. Specifically refer to joint training in the attributes.
- Regarding the white paper in general, eliminate detail that needlessly restricts our flexibility in describing, analyzing, and accommodating our MV principles. For example, there was a discussion of the relative importance of certain things such as distance to ranges for certain missions. The principle should be stated along the lines of "proximity to ranges" or "proximity to joint partners," vice giving specific distances, so that our analysis would consider these issue but do it in the context of the specific mission / platform.
- Regarding the Air Expeditionary Task Force section of the paper, CSAF was concerned that using a ratio of 4:1 as needed to support AF deployed forces is misleading when the Services are inconsistent in applying rotational force definitions. The table on aircraft unit sizes and crew ratios needs to set principles for the most effective unit sizes, but be backed by analytical rigor and afford flexibility for different AC /RC mixes.
- Regarding the Bases section of the paper, SecAF was not comfortable with the "one base, one bomber" construct from the perspective of dispersal of strategic assets. Mr. Gibbs agreed but cautioned there was a cost for this strategy and the need for it was debatable. Staff agreed to look at both sides of this issue and raise it again if an argument exists.

Regarding the Agile Combat Support section of the paper, CSAF indicated we must also place MV on collocating first-deploying assets with mobility assets that will get them to the fight.

Mr. Gibbs concluded the meeting at 1100 discussing SAF/IE's strategic approach toward BRAC and the need to work through the intellectual argument the AF must use to bridge the gap between the legislative direction that directs a 20-year force structure basis for BRAC, but requires all actions to be complete by FY11.

CURTIS S. MILAM, Maj, USAF  
SAF/IEBB

The above minutes are approved.

  
NELSON F. GIBBS

Assistant Secretary of the Air Force  
Installations, Environment, and Logistics