



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

3000
Ser N00/100058
22 Aug 12

From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: Director, Navy Staff

Subj: LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS) COUNCIL

Ref: (a) COMUSFLTFORCOM Littoral Combat Ship Wargame Phase 1
(Sustainment) Report of Findings of Feb 12
(b) Review of the Navy's Readiness to Receive, Employ and
Deploy the LCS Class Vessel of 9 Mar 12
(c) PRESINSURV Littoral Combat Ship Material Condition
and Maintainability Report of 13 Jul 12
(d) COMUSFLTFORCOM Littoral Combat Ship Wargame
(Operations) Phase 2 Report of Findings of 15 Aug 12
(e) OPNAVNOTE 5400 Standard Navy Distribution List,
Ser DNS-33/12U102020 of 1 Mar 12

1. USS FREEDOM (LCS 1) and USS INDEPENDENCE (LCS 2) represent significant departures from the normal shipbuilding path. They were, by direction and plan, built as test and evaluation platforms and provided to the Fleet for experimentation to refine concept development, modularity, employment of off-board vehicles and conduct risk mitigation for follow-on ships.

2. All Navy combat ships, even test and evaluation platforms, must be ready to meet assigned capability and missions starting the first day of active service. The Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) is no exception. Accordingly, I initiated several independent studies to assess LCS across several aspects of the "man, train, equip and maintain domain" to support the rotational deployment of USS FREEDOM (and follow-on ships) to Singapore, beginning in 2013. Addressing the challenges identified by these studies (references (a) through (d)) on the timeline we require necessitates the establishment of an empowered council to drive action across the acquisition, requirements and Fleet enterprises of the Navy.

3. Accordingly, you are designated as the Chairman of the LCS Council, primary Flag Officer responsible for coordinating all Navy administrative control (ADCON) responsibilities for the LCS Class to address the findings in references (a) through (d),

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within the ADCON constraints of reference (e). To execute this responsibility, you are directed to chair a 3-Star LCS Council that includes the Principal Military Deputy, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN(RDA)); Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; and Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Develop a charter to implement the Council's duties and provide to me within 14 days of receipt of this letter. You may add members to this Council for specific matters (e.g., CNP: Manning) as you deem appropriate. Direction by you in this council's charter carries my direction.

4. The immediate focus of the LCS Council will be the development and implementation of an LCS Plan of Action and Milestones. This plan must be implemented by 31 January 2013. Provide ASN(RDA) and me with bi-weekly updates on your progress; we shall meet monthly to review progress.


JONATHAN W. GREENERT

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PEO (LCS)