

Air Force E-mail to Congress on 'Corona' Meetings

Date unknown

"Last week, Air Force Secretary Donley and Gen Schwartz met with all of the Air Force four-star generals and Assistant Secretaries at the CORONA conference in Colorado Springs, CO. Within the context of CORONA, they explored organizational solutions that would:

- Restore and maintain focus on the nuclear mission and culture;
- Retain and promote progress made over the past decade in improving bomber support to theater operations; and
- Provide room for growth as space and cyber missions mature

To that end, the following decisions have been made regarding the Nuclear Enterprise and Air Force Cyber Command:

Nuclear Enterprise: The Air Force will pursue the stand-up of a new nuclear focused Major Command (MAJCOM) to be commanded by a three-star general (to be identified/nominated later). The command will oversee all nuclear assets, but will not include the B-1 (since it is not nuclear capable), ISR, or C2 aircraft, which will remain under Air Combat Command (ACC). This approach will:

- Restore the necessary focus on the nuclear missions; provide a clear chain of command for all Air Force nuclear forces; and will allow for one-to-one alignment between operations and sustainment with the Nuclear Weapons Center
- Serve the United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) nuclear deterrence and global strike missions, with dual-capable bombers and an ICBM force that could support USSTRATCOM's interest in global (conventional) strike

Air Force Cyber Command: Within the context of departmental and national discussions, the Air Force has decided the best way to manage Air Force cyber capabilities is to establish a Numbered Air Force (NAF) under Air Force Space Command. This approach puts two interdependent domains, both supporting USSTRATCOM, together under a single command. This enables cross-domain synergy, aligns command technical expertise, and facilitates career development for our cyberspace warriors. The Air Force is now developing a way-forward to continue with the headquarters selection process.

The Air Force is currently working to identify the phased steps required to put a provisional command to support the Nuclear Enterprise in place and identify an appropriate commander. Work continues to identify the proper beddown location for these new capabilities. Additional information on this process will be provided in the next few weeks as it becomes available."

Unknown date

Subject: USAF: CORONA Conference After Action

Last week, Gen Schwartz and Secretary Donley met at the Air Force Academy with all of the Air Force four-stars and Assistant Secretaries at the CORONA Conference. They discussed a number of issues and we wanted to pass along a couple of the major decisions that were made.

* Nuclear Enterprise. We have decided to pursue the stand-up of a new nuclear focused MAJCOM (Major Command), "Global Strike Command," to be commanded by a three-star. The command would encompass both the nuclear capable bombers and the ICBMs. After extensive discussion, we determined that it would be best to establish this command to oversee all nuclear assets.

o This approach restores the necessary focus on the nuclear mission; provides a clear chain of command for all Air Force nuclear forces; and allows for one-to-one alignment between operations and sustainment with the Nuclear Weapons Center.

o This combination serves STRATCOM nuclear deterrence and global strike missions, with dual-capable bombers and an ICBM force that could support STRATCOM's interest in prompt global (conventional) strike;

o We are now working to identify the phased steps that would be required to put a provisional command in place, identify an appropriate commander and location, and to determine appropriate timing.

* AF Cyber Command Decision. Given our recent discussions regarding Cyberspace initiatives at the Department and National levels, and the best way to manage the Air Force's Cyber capabilities, we have decided to establish a Numbered Air Force (NAF)--24 AF--under Air Force Space Command. The Air Staff will now develop options, with pros and cons, for potential locations.

Thank you for your continued support.