



OPERATIONAL TEST
AND EVALUATION

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INFO MEMO

APR 29 2015

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: J. Michael Gilmore, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation 

SUBJECT: Unclassified Report on the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) required by Section 123 of H.R. 3979, National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) (U)

- I have attached the subject report at TAB A, which is an unclassified version of the report I transmitted earlier this month; the letter I used to transmit the report to the Congress is attached at TAB B. The highlights of my report are provided below.
- A new draft Concept of Operations indicates the Navy's original vision of a nimble, mission-focused ship has been overcome by the realities of the multi-mission nature of naval warfare combined with the multiple threat environments of high-intensity naval conflicts.
- Although test-quality data continue to be unavailable to support a precise assessment of current legacy system Mine Countermeasures (MCM) performance, it is clear that the Navy does not now possess the MCM capacity to achieve its wartime objectives. Nor will LCS's Increment 1 MCM mission package significantly improve the Navy's MCM capability, even if the Increment 1 MCM mission package achieves its interim requirements.
- Regarding the Navy's new Small Surface Combatant (SSC), I conclude it will be significantly less survivable than a frigate and will not provide the multi-mission capabilities of a frigate.

COORDINATION: None

Attachment: TABs A and B

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