

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FY 2006 DoD BUDGET REQUEST:**

**Up \$19.2 Billion, or a 4.8% Increase**

**Chris Hellman**

[Back to Previous Page](#)

### **“Top Line” Funding**

The Bush Administration is requesting \$419.3 billion for the Department of Defense in Fiscal Year 2006, which begins on October 1, 2005. This is \$19.2 billion more than the current level of \$400.1 billion, an increase of 4.8 percent. This figure does not include funding for the nuclear weapons activities of the Department of Energy, which is considered part of total Defense Department spending. Nor does this figure include the costs of ongoing military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Pentagon estimates that total annual funding for the Defense Department alone will grow to \$502.3 billion by Fiscal Year 2011. Total Pentagon spending, not including funding for the Department of Energy or for actual combat operations for the period FY’06 through FY’11 will exceed \$2.8 trillion.

### **Funding for Contingency Operations (Supplemental Appropriations)**

The request contains no funding for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, which the Pentagon continues to fund through special supplemental spending packages. To date, the Pentagon has received \$155 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan (\$64 billion in FY’03, \$66 billion in FY’04, and \$25 billion so far for FY’05). The Administration plans to request an additional \$75 billion for the remainder of FY’05 (with an additional \$5 billion for tsunami relief and foreign assistance, for a total of \$80 billion), bringing the three year total to roughly \$230 billion. Further funding will clearly be necessary to fund operations during FY’06.

### **Missile Defense**

The Administration is requesting \$8.8 billion for missile defense in FY’06, down roughly \$1 billion from the current \$9.9 billion. Approximately \$800 million of the proposed reductions are from the Kinetic Energy Interceptor (KEI) program. Though the request is below current levels, missile defense continues to receive more funding than any other weapons program in the annual Pentagon budget. This total does not include \$757 million for the SBIRS-High satellite program.

### **Shipbuilding**

The request includes funding for the continued development of the Aircraft Carrier Replacement Program (\$873 million), the DD(x) Destroyer Program (\$1.8 billion), and the Littoral Combat Ship (\$613) million. It includes \$2.6 billion for the purchase of one SSN-774 “Virginia” class nuclear attack submarine, and completes funding of the last planned DDG-51 “Arleigh Burke” destroyer. The budget also includes the retirement of one conventional aircraft carrier, reducing the fleet from 12 to 11.

### **Aircraft**

The request includes \$2.9 billion for 38 of the Navy’s F/A-18E/F “Super Hornet,” rather than the expected 42,

\$1.8 billion for procurement of 11 V-22 “Osprey” tilt-rotor aircraft, and \$5.0 billion for continued development of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. The request also includes \$4.3 billion for 25 F/A-22 “Raptor” fighters, and prepares to end F-22 procurement in FY’08 at a total of 179 planes.

## **Personnel**

The request includes an increase in base pay of 3.1 percent. According to the Pentagon, base pay has risen 25 percent since 2001.

## **Base Closures**

The request includes funding to implement base closure and realignment decisions by the 2005 Base Closure Commission. The budget includes \$1.9 billion for FY’06, and \$5.7 billion for FY’07.

## **Homeland Defense**

The request contains \$9.5 billion for Pentagon activities related to homeland security including detection and protection against weapons of mass destruction, emergency preparedness and response, and protecting critical infrastructure. This includes \$1.6 billion for defense against chemical and biological weapons.

## **Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR)**

The Administration is requesting \$416 million for the CTR (also known as “Nunn-Lugar”) program, up slightly from the current \$408 million. The CTR program assists Russia and the former Soviet republics safeguard weapons of mass destruction and related technologies.

## **Federal Budget Deficit**

The Administration’s request arrives on Capitol Hill as the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) is predicting a deficit of \$400 billion for Fiscal Year 2005, much higher than the \$348 billion deficit it projected in September. The Administration’s own Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) most recent deficit estimate for FY’05 is even higher - \$427 billion. CBO also projects an FY’06 deficit in excess of \$300 billion, but an analysis of the CBO figure by the Senate Budget Committee minority staff put the figure at \$386 billion.

*Chris Hellman is Defense Budget and Policy Analyst at the Center for Arms Control and Non-proliferation. See <http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/military/budget/> for more information.*

Economists for Peace and Security  
<http://www.epsusa.org/newsletter/march2005/conetta.htm>