

**Comanche and F/A-22 Study
Outline of Terms of Reference**

OSD should commission an independent, in-depth study of both the Comanche and F/A-22 programs. These studies should, at a minimum, address the following issues:

- **Transformational Value** – The study should examine the extent to which the programs contribute to the Department's efforts to transform the military to address the threats and requirements of the next several decades. For example, the study should consider whether or not the Comanche and F/A-22 will change the way the Army and Air Force organize and operate, or whether these programs are merely another step in the evolution of rotary wing and manned fighter aircraft technology. In addition, the study should address the question of opportunity cost, that is, whether or not new transformational programs are not being pursued, or are receiving less funding, because of the need to support the F/A-22 and Comanche.

- **The Changing Strategic Environment** – The study should examine how the international/strategic environment (especially the threat and changes in forward basing doctrine) has evolved since the inception of these two programs. It should also determine the extent to which the requirements for the F/A-22 and Comanche programs, as originally laid out in DoD documents, are still relevant, given the missions they will likely have to conduct. In addition, the extent to which the existing programs could carry out both current and the future missions that may be asked of them should be examined. An important part of the study should be an examination of a variety of alternatives to the F/A-22 and Comanche, with particular emphasis on the relative costs and capabilities of the alternatives, their effectiveness in the types of wars that the US is likely to have to fight in the future, and their ability to operate jointly across service lines.

Acquisition/Technical Factors – The study should address whether or not the programs are achieving their stated objectives according to the cost and schedule laid out at an OSD/OMB agreed-upon acquisition program baseline, and if not, investigate reasons for the deviation and determine if these reasons are inherent in the programs (and therefore likely to continue to affect the programs). The study should also look at current technical problems, the Services' proposals for solving them, and determine if the Services' approach is likely to yield successful results. It should recommend specific programmatic events/milestones that should be achieved at specific points so that progress, or lack of progress, in achieving program objectives can be measured.

Comanche/F/A-22 Study Mechanics

- The study scope, timeline and reporting arrangements should be agreed on by OSD and OMB;
- An independent contractor (such as IDA) should be commissioned by DoD, with OMB approval, to do the study;
- A study executive panel composed of PA&E, OSD(C) and OMB should be the interface between the independent contractor conducting the study and the government;

The Services should be required to provide timely and accurate data as necessary for the contractor to complete the study, but should have no other input or interaction with the contractor. They may receive briefings at the discretion of the executive panel.