



Defense Northern Challenge of the Decade:
Defining and Confronting Adversarial Threats Involving the Arctic

Starting Point: Two Main Categories

- Differences between:
 - Legacy North American / Homeland Defense
 - Emerging Arctic Operational Capabilities Development

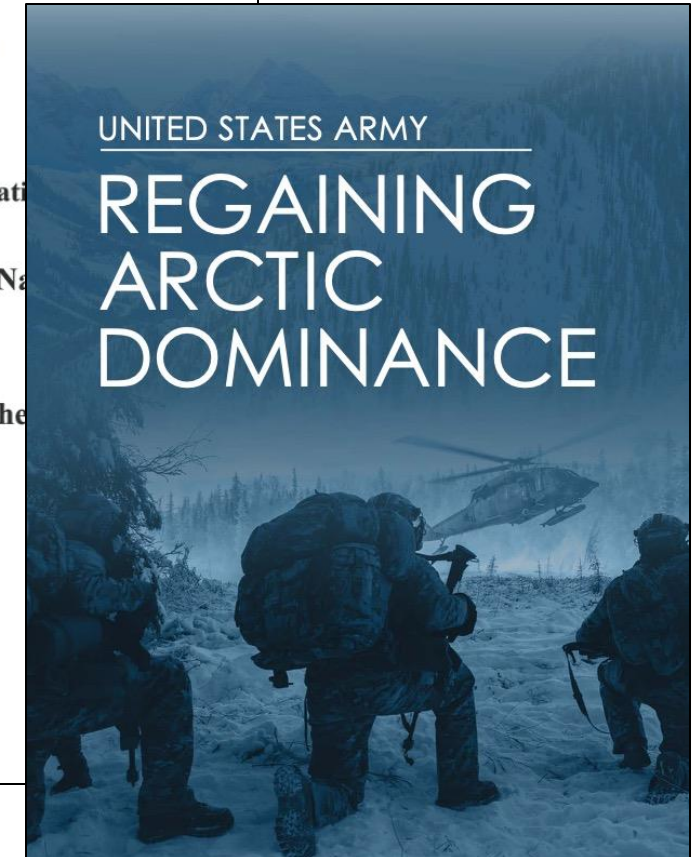
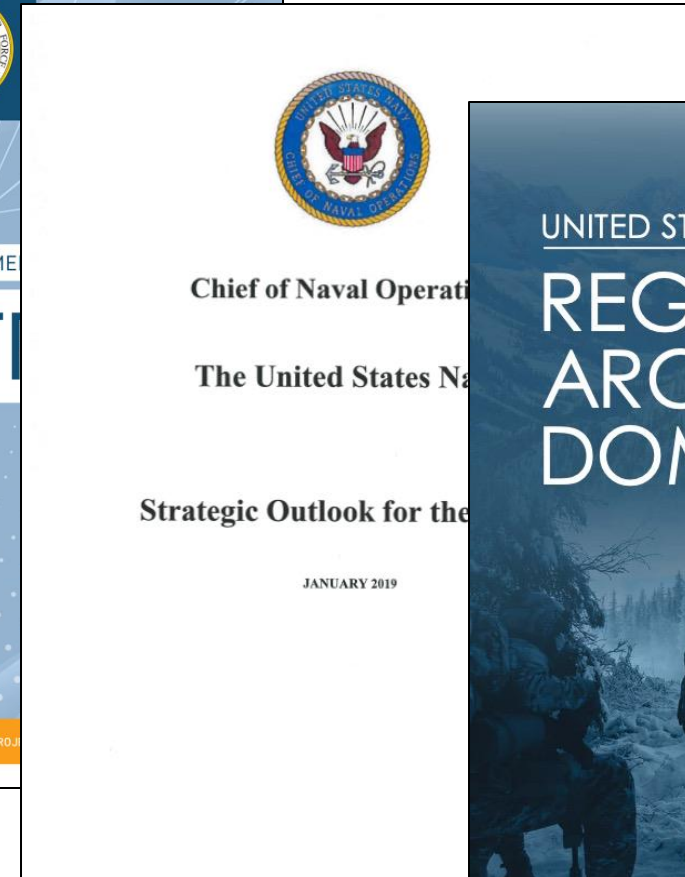
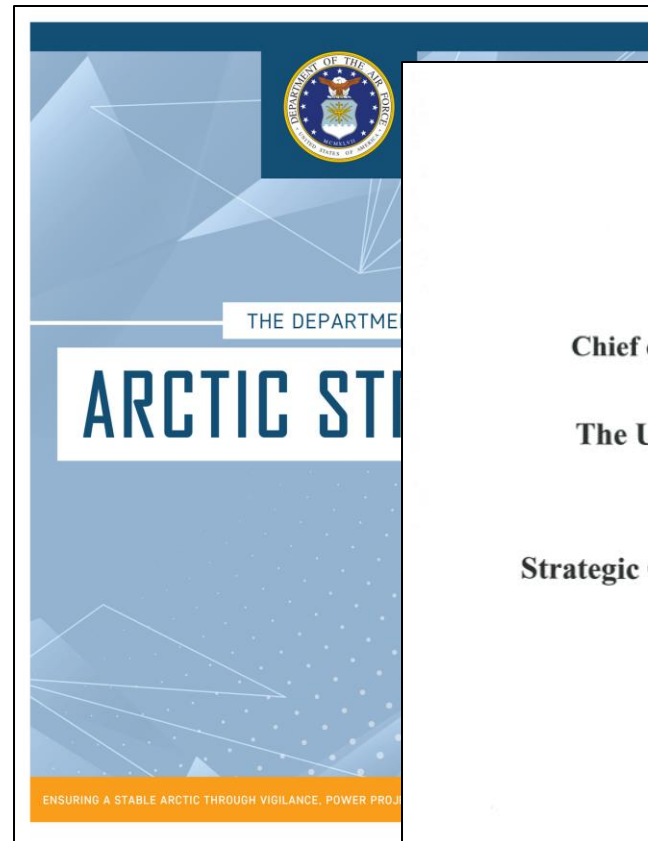
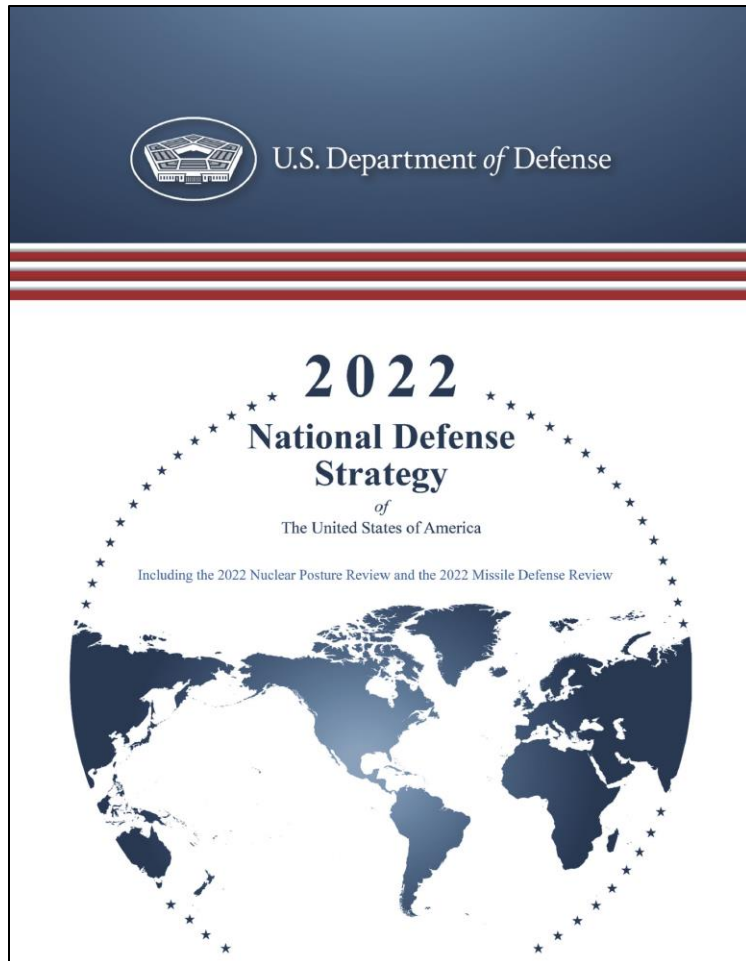


DOD UCP Boundaries and the “Three” Arctics



Defense vs. Force Projection

DOD Arctic-related Strategies



Defining the Threat – Essential Context

- Primaries NSS, NDS, and NMS lead to subsequent strategic critical documents
 - Campaign plans, CONPLASNS, OPLANS, etc...
 - End States guided by LOOs and LOEs
 - Line of operation — A line that defines the interior or exterior orientation of the force in relation to the enemy or that connects actions on nodes and/or decisive points related in time and space to an objective(s)
 - Line of effort — In the context of joint operation planning, using the purpose (cause and effect) to focus efforts toward establishing operational and strategic conditions by linking multiple tasks and missions.

Defining the Threat – Capabilities Gap

- Somewhat abstract, but real nonetheless
- Today's military success is guided by the ability to conduct *precision-enabled, combined-arms warfare*
 - Combined Arms = integration and application of two or more arms or elements of one Military Service into an operation
- USAF and USN articulate overlapping Arctic-related national defense capabilities
- However...

The United States Army Arctic Mission

- Defined mission for the Arctic...first time in DOD history
- Literally starting from scratch
- Those subsequent strategic military products previously mentioned...cannot exist without the US Army contribution
- For example: there is no such thing as a strategic plan without air defense, which the US Army owns
- Ok, got it. Why is this such a big deal?



The Russian Federation

- Russia HAS achieved a much higher level of Arctic combined-arms capabilities
- Somewhat technologically advanced
- More importantly, learning critical lessons through brute-force experience



Opportunity...

- With the Ukraine War, Russia has flatlined on Arctic strategic development
- Represents an unprecedented opportunity to close operational capabilities gaps...an opportunity we will never get again
- Eventually, Russia might no longer be the dominant Arctic nation and force
- U.S. Arctic operational capability gaps will need every bit of help possible to overcome

Thank you!



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Troy J. Bouffard
Director: Center for Arctic Security and Resilience
tjbouffard@alaska.edu