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Bad Moon Rising: Meeting the Army's Cargo Aviation Needs through 2065

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Abstract: The purpose of this research is to conduct analysis on the present and future global operating environment, and how that pertains to the future of the CH-47 Cargo Helicopter. Assumption Based Planning is a method of future planning for generating robust alternatives and is being used to inform the technological development of the CH-47 in order to meet the requirements of cargo aviation in the future operating environment. Nine dimensions have been recognized as vital considerations in defining the operating environment and determining what kind of role the CH-47 will play for the next fifty years or more. This analysis will provide PM Cargo with key insights on where to focus their engineering efforts for the future models of the CH-47.

Keywords: Chinook, Cargo Aviation, Modernization, Assumption Based Planning, Futures Analysis, Army Operating Concept, Requirements Development