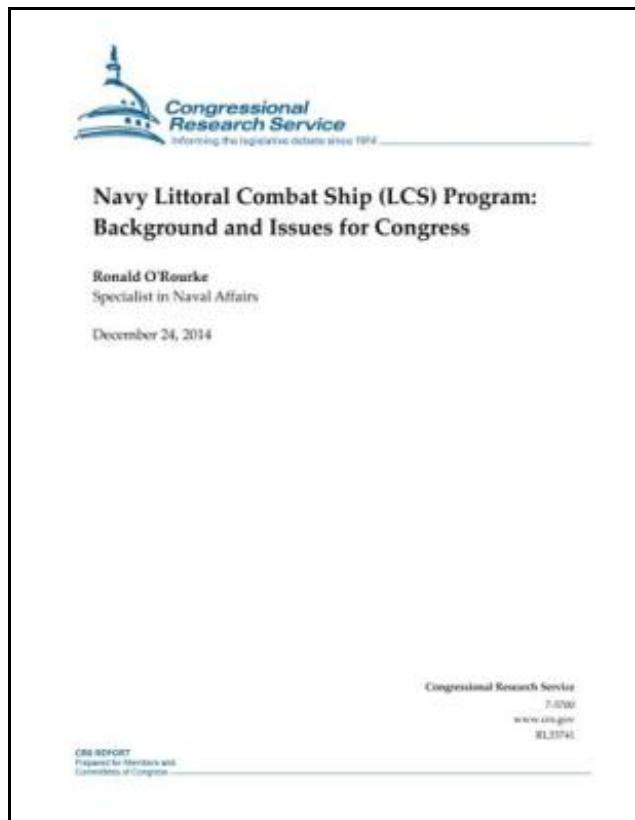


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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 120 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.3in. The Navy had been planning to procure an eventual total of 52 LCSs, but on February 24, 2014, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced that no new contract negotiations beyond 32 ships will go forward and that the Navy is to submit alternative proposals to procure a capable and lethal small surface combatant, generally consistent with the capabilities of a frigate. I've directed the Navy to consider a completely new design, existing ship designs, and a modified LCS. Following Hagel's February 24, 2014, announcement, the Navy began an internal study of options for small surface combatants (SSCs) to be procured following the 32 LCSs. The Navy states that study was completed on July 31, 2014, as required. On December 10, 2014, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, after reviewing the Navy's work, approved a Navy plan to procure an SSC based on an upgraded version of the two LCS designs. The upgrade includes additional equipment for air defense, surface warfare, and antisubmarine warfare, plus some other changes. The Navy estimates that the changes will increase the cost of each LCS by 60 million to 75 million. The Navy states that it is now starting to develop an acquisition strategy for procuring the 20 modified LCSs. LCSs have been procured since FY2010 under a pair of 10-ship, fixed-price incentive (FPI) block buy contracts that the Navy awarded to the two LCS builders Lockheed and Austal USA on December 29, 2010. Under these contracts, which cover the years FY2010-FY2015, four LCSs (numbers 21 through 24) were to be requested for procurement in FY2015. The Navy's proposed FY2015 budget, however, requests funding for the procurement of three rather than four LCSs. Hagel's February 24 announcement and...



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