Weekly Report
National Security Division
Week ending 4 Oct 2019

National Security Strategy:

1. **Protect the homeland, the American people, and the American way of life**
2. **Promote American prosperity**
3. **Preserve peace through strength**
4. **Advance American influence**

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National Defense Strategy:

1. **Rebuilding military readiness as we build a more lethal Joint Force**
2. **Strengthening alliances as we attract new partners**
3. **Reforming the Department's business practices for greater performance and affordability**

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CJCS Milley's Message to the Joint Force

I am humbled to represent you as the 20th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Our Nation has the most professional and capable military force in world history because of you—our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and Civil Servants. Thank you for who you are and what you do, and thanks also to your families—none of us could do what we do without their support. Every day you answer our Nation's call and you deliver regardless of the sacrifice.

Today, we face a complex and volatile global security environment with a wide range of challenges. We will meet those challenges and we stand ready to keep the peace and, if necessary, win the war on the land, at sea, in the air, in space and cyber space.

To ensure we maintain a flexible, versatile, and adaptable force today and tomorrow, I will focus on five key areas as I begin my time as Chairman:

- **Sustain our values.** *American values have made us strong for two and a half centuries, and we will never waiver in our commitment to the U.S. Constitution.*

- **Improve joint warfighting readiness.** *We must be ready 24-7—that is our contract with the American people. We will also continue to work closely with our Allies and partners to improve our collective security and protect our common interests.*

- **Develop the Joint Force of the future**. *We will modernize our military through innovative concept development, advanced technology, and new capabilities.*

- **Develop and empower Joint Force leaders**. *The future operating environment will place new demands on leaders at all levels. Our leaders must have the training, education, and experience to meet those demands.*

- **Take care of our people and families.** *They are our most precious asset. We must always keep faith with them.*

It is the honor of a lifetime to continue to serve alongside of you to ensure this experiment in liberty is passed to the next generation.

MARK A. MILLEY
General, U.S. Army
20th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

U.S. Competition With China Ongoing Challenge

(National Security Strategy; Reforming the department's business practices for greater performance and affordability)

The U.S. competition with China is the ongoing challenge of this generation, Randall Schriver said at a Brookings Institution event in Washington.

Schriver, the assistant defense secretary for Indo-Pacific security affairs, spoke as the Chinese Communist Party celebrated 70 years of rule in the world's most populous nation. He said the United States military must adapt to deter China.

U.S. strategic competition with China is a major element of national strategy, he said. "We feel we are in competition because fundamentally we have different visions, different aspirations and different views of what regional security architecture should look like," Schriver said.

The United States wants a free and open Indo-Pacific founded on enduring principles and values that "are near universal and widely shared," he said. These include respect for national sovereignty, fair, free and reciprocal trade, a rule-based order and peaceful dispute resolution.

"We observe that China [under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party] has a different vision and aspirations and is increasingly developing the tools to pursue its vision and seems willing to accept more friction in pursuit of that vision," he said. "Globally, China seeks to shape a world consistent with its authoritarian model and national goals. We see that domestic governance in China as a result of CCP rule is increasingly authoritarian and less respectful of human rights and dignity."

China has launched influence operations to undermine free elections, used economic coercion on neighboring countries and encourages outright theft of other nations' intellectual property. "We see them extending their military presence overseas and expanding the 'One-belt, One-road' initiative to include military ties with China," Schriver said. "And we see [China] deploying advanced weapons to militarizing disputed features despite pledges at the senior-most level that they would not do so."

For years, China has said it would field a world-class military by 2049, and DOD takes the country's statements at face value. "The department views military developments in China as seeking to erode U.S. military advantages," Schriver said. "They are working to become the preeminent power in the Indo-Pacific while simultaneously making plans to expand its presence and sustain its capabilities farther from Chinese shores."

China is seeking to base troops and develop military capabilities in Africa, the Middle East and in the Western Pacific Ocean area.

At the most basic level, what the United States is competing for is to "sustain a position within the regional and international system that allows us to promote, support and protect a liberal rules-based order whose institutions, rules and norms have fostered peace for decades," the assistant secretary said.

This matters, he said, because if the Chinese Communist Party wins, the world will look very different. Sovereignty would erode, leaving states with less or no control over their decisions. International and regional organizations would have less influence and sway. "Freedom of the seas

and overflight in the Indo-Pacific may be challenged," he said. "We could also see a normalization of the lack of respect for individual and human rights. All this portends a less free and less open Indo-Pacific region with high potential for these trends to manifest on a global scale."

U.S. forces are adapting to fight against near-peer competitors. "Instead of expecting to dominate an opponent, our armed forces are learning to expect to be contested throughout a fight, while achieving the political objectives set for them," he said.

The United States will also rely on its alliance system to counteract Chinese advances. The United States has many treaty allies in the Indo-Pacific and good relations with many more countries. U.S. troops routinely train and operate with allies and partners in the region. All this ensures American and partner forces can act together should the need arise.

Click to read more here.

New Agency Provides Personnel Vetting, Technology Protection

(Reform)

Officials unfurled the flag of the new Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency during a ceremony at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia

About 8,000 people from the Defense Security Service, National Background Investigations Bureau and the Consolidated Adjudications Facility merged to form the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

"Merging the components into one organization will allow us to execute our two core missions: personnel vetting and critical technology protection, underpinned by counterintelligence and training," said Charles Phalen Jr., acting director of DCSA.

Cynthia McGovern, deputy chief of DCSA communications, said the new agency's responsibilities include:

- Conducting background investigations for 95% of the federal government, including military and civilian personnel. This includes 105 departments and agencies, as well as industry personnel under the National Industrial Security Program.

- Providing oversight to about 12,500 cleared companies under the NISP to ensure sensitive and classified government information and technologies entrusted to persons with government clearance are properly protected.
- Securing the private industries that have received government clearance against attack and compromise.
- Identifying and rendering harmless foreign intelligence threats to the federal government's trusted workforce and critical technologies.

"This merger advances National Defense Strategy objectives to enhance our security environment and maintain lethality by protection critical defense information from theft or disclosure," he added.

In April 2018, there was a backlog of 725,000 security clearance cases, and it was taking years to get security clearances approved, she said. Today, it's around 303,000, and by the end of the year, it should be around 200,000 — which Weichert said is the target level for efficient processing.

The nature of background investigations is also changing. Weichert said that instead of a periodic checklist, there will be continuous monitoring. This will make it easier to pinpoint problem areas, she said.

Kari A. Bingen, deputy undersecretary of defense for intelligence, said the organizational restructuring has been a positive. "We have a unique opportunity for unparalleled integration that will streamline our security clearance program and help maintain our military advantage during a time of unprecedented threats to our people, technology and industrial base," she said.

The new agency's headquarters is in Quantico, Virginia, but it has field offices throughout the U.S.

Click to read more.

POW/MIA Update

This week, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency made 6 new announcements. Click on the links to read more:

News Releases
October 1, 2019
USS Oklahoma Marine Accounted For From World War II (Arthurholtz, M.)
Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Burchfield, R.)
Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Shelemba, J.)
Marine Accounted For From World War II (Wiesehan, L.)
Marine Accounted For From World War II (Hatch, R.)
Marine Accounted For From World War II (Burke, J.)
Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Garrison, J.)

Staff Activities

- This week staff continued to developed briefing and sponsor pages for National Security Commission programs. These sheets will be used by the Marketing Division to seek corporate donors to fund The American Legion's National Security programs that promote community
- Tuesday, National Security Division staff and Washington DC Executive Director met with Sean Sorbie from the USLGC to discuss The American Legion's participation in their upcoming National Security Advisory Council. The council will hear from high-level officials from Congress and the administration. The follow day will include a meeting on the Hill with the "For Country" caucus for a discussion that will focus on veterans specific issues.
- Wednesday, Gold Star Family coordinator attended and participated in the Gold Star Mothers weekend in Washington DC. Numerous discussion focused on the continued need to support Gold Star Mothers and the sacrifice of both Service Member and families.
- Thursday, staff met with the American Australian Association to continue coordination of the National Commander's upcoming visit to Australia.

Freddy Gessner, Acting Director
National Security Division