

From: Craig Quigley <cquigley@hrmffa.org>
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Craig Quigley
Subject: EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | JANUARY 18, 2019

Ladies & Gentlemen, below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.

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Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Executive Director
Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance
757-644-6324 (Office)
757-419-1164 (Mobile)



EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | JANUARY 18, 2018

TOP STORIES

Syria and ISIS

A suicide bomber triggered a [fiery explosion](#) Wednesday that killed four U.S. citizens at a market in northern Syria. Two of the dead were U.S. **service** members, and two others were U.S. civilians, military officials said. The Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack in the town of Manbij.

It was unclear what impact the blast might have on President Trump's calculus after he confounded his own national security team with a surprise decision last month to withdraw all [2,000 U.S. troops from Syria](#), declaring Islamic State had been defeated there. [Read more here.](#)

The Pentagon has identified the two service members and one Defense Department employee who were killed in the suicide bomb attack.

Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jonathan R. Farmer, 37, of Boynton Beach, Florida, died as a result of wounds sustained during the blast. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Navy Chief Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) Shannon M. Kent, 35, listed as being from upstate New York, also died. She was assigned to Cryptologic Warfare Activity 66, based at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland.

In addition, Defense Intelligence Agency operations support specialist Scott A. Wirtz, from St. Louis, was killed. An American contractor also was killed but has

yet to be identified. Finally, three more troops were wounded, according to news reports from the scene. [Click here for full story.](#)

State of the Union

Speaker Nancy Pelosi asked President Trump on Wednesday to delay his Jan. 29 [State of the Union address](#) amid the partial government shutdown, an unusual request that escalated the partisan battle over his border wall even as bipartisan groups of lawmakers pressed to reopen the government and make room for compromise.

In a letter to Mr. Trump that underscored how the shutdown fight has poisoned hopes of bipartisan comity at the start of divided government, Ms. Pelosi cited security concerns as her reason for proposing that the president postpone the annual presidential ritual of addressing a joint session of Congress in a televised speech during prime time, suggesting he submit a written message instead.

However, Homeland Security Chief Kirstjen Nielsen [said](#) her agency and the U.S. Secret Service were "fully prepared" to provide security for President Donald Trump's State of the Union address. [Read more.](#)

For more information on the State of the Union address, [click here.](#)

President Trump appeared to [retaliate](#) against Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and her request Thursday. In a publicly released [letter](#), Mr. Trump told the new House speaker that he will not allow the use of military aircraft for her trip to Brussels, Egypt and Afghanistan "due to the shutdown."

In other shutdown news, on Wednesday, President Trump [signed into law](#) a bill that guarantees about 350,000 furloughed federal employees back pay once the partial shutdown ends.

The House and Senate last week passed the 2019 Government Employee Fair Treatment Act, which ensures back pay for furloughed workers and mandates that the roughly 500,000 employees working without immediate pay during the shutdown are able to take previously scheduled leave without consequence. Government wide guidance had required agencies to cancel leave for those workers. [Read full story here.](#)

New Attorney General Grilled by Congress

Congress is considering [William Barr's](#) nomination as U.S. Attorney General. One of the main points of the hearing came as Barr said he would not impede the ongoing Mueller investigation. Though some are skeptical, [read why here.](#)

While we are on the topic of the Senate, Senate Republicans on Wednesday [blocked](#) a Democratic effort to keep sanctions on companies tied to Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska, ending what was the most aggressive congressional pushback so far on the administration's foreign policy toward Russia. The sanctions resolution from Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, which required 60 votes to proceed, was defeated in a 57-42 vote. [Full story.](#)

DoD News and Technology Updates

New FORSCOM Leader: Lt. Gen. Michael X. Garrett, who leads U.S. Army Central at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina, has been nominated to take charge of U.S. Army Forces Command, a congressional staffer confirmed Tuesday. Currently in charge of receiving troops into the [Central Command](#) area of responsibility, Garrett would be sending them, as head of the command that mans, trains and equips units based in the contiguous United States for deployments abroad. [Read more about Garrett here.](#)

Missile Defense Review: The Trump administration is considering ways to expand U.S. homeland and overseas defenses against a [potential missile attack](#), possibly adding a layer of satellites in space to detect and track hostile targets. Thursday, President Trump detailed in a speech at the Pentagon how exactly we would go about doing this. [Read the review here.](#)

Lasers: The Defense Department will study the possibility of [space weapons](#)—perhaps particle beams, ray guns, space lasers or orbiting missiles—that could intercept enemy missiles coming off the launch pad, according to a senior administration official who briefed reporters on the Missile Defense Review, released on Thursday. But the Pentagon will forgo actually developing them, for now. It's part of the Trump administration's effort to "expand the scope of what we're postured to defend against," the official said.

Unmanned Ships: China and Russia have heavily invested in anti-access technologies aimed at holding America's main force-projection assets—aircraft carriers—at risk. Now the U.S. Navy and the upper ranks of the military are preparing to take back control of the game board, and it's looking to [unmanned technologies](#) to help.

The U.S. surface fleet has for the past few years sought to flip the script on

actors such as China. The fleet aimed to move from a role of simply defending the carrier to going on the offensive.

The goal was to spread out over a wide area to strain Chinese intelligence and reconnaissance assets and thereby exercise a degree of sea control in places such as the South and East China seas that China seeks to deny with long-range anti-ship missiles and an ever-growing fleet. [Read the full story here.](#)

KC-46: The U.S. Air Force and Boeing found agreement on the terms for the KC-46 air-refueling aircraft to enter the active inventory. The long-sought goal of recapitalizing the KC-135 air-refueling force is set to begin. [Full story.](#)

Quick Hits

Iranian "Satellite" Launch: Iran's home-brewed space program suffered an [embarrassing failure](#) Tuesday, as its Safir rocket failed to deliver a Payam satellite into orbit. But to some U.S. government officials, this launch is not what it seems. They believe Iran's space program is just a cover for the development of long-range missiles, though that view is not universally shared.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo warned Iran earlier this month to scrap its planned [satellite launch](#), threatening to increase sanctions on the country. He issued a statement Tuesday [condemning](#) the launch but did not say whether the U.S. plans to levy new sanctions against Iran in response.

Would-Be Terrorist Arrested: A Georgia man was arrested Wednesday in connection with a plot to attack the White House with an armor-piercing [rocket and explosive devices](#), U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia BJay Pak said.

Pak told reporters at a media briefing that [Hasher Jallal Taheb](#), 21, planned to attack the White House using devices that included homemade explosives and an "anti-tank rocket."

Taheb said the plan was to blow a hole in the White House with an AT4 then attack inside the building with semi-automatic rifles. He was going to wear a backpack with a homemade bomb in it and expected to become a martyr, the court document alleges. He expected that two other people, who were actually an FBI undercover agent and an FBI confidential source, would join him in the attack, prosecutors said.

This Day in History

1778: [Captain James Cook](#) discovers the [Hawaiian Islands](#), naming them the 'Sandwich Islands' after the First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Sandwich.

1838: [Jim Bowie](#) arrives at the [Alamo](#) to assist its [Texas](#) defenders.

1902: [The Isthmus Canal Commission](#) in Washington shifts its support from Nicaragua to Panama as a favored canal site.

1911: Aviator [Eugene Ely](#) performs the [first successful](#) take-off and landing from a ship, in San Francisco Bay.

1942: General MacArthur temporarily repels the Japanese in [Bataan](#). The United States takes the lead in the [Far East war crime trials](#).

1945: The German Army launches its second attempt to relieve the besieged city of Budapest from the advancing Red Army.

1964: Plans are disclosed for the World Trade Center in New York.

See more at [History.net](https://www.history.net)

Look Ahead

Tuesday, January 22

9:45 AM EST

Forum: [The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](https://www.ceip.org)

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Meshal DeSantis: mdesantis@ceip.org | 202-939-2233

CEIP, 1779 Massachusetts Avenue NW

11:30 AM EST

Discussion: The National Defense Industrial Association

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Evamarie Socha: esocho@ndia.org | 703-247-2579

Army Navy Club, 901 17th St. NW

11:30 AM EST

Event: [The Friends of the National World War II Memorial](https://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org)

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Thalia Ertman: tertman@wwiimemorialfriends.org | 202-543-0787

World War II Memorial, 1750 Independence Avenue SW

Wednesday, January 23

3:00 PM EST

Briefing: [Defense One](#)

Topic: Defense

202-739-8501

Watergate Offices, 600 New Hampshire Avenue NW

4:00 PM EST

Discussion: [The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs](#)

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Jason Shevrin: gwmedia@gwu.edu | 202-994-5631

GWU Elliott School, 1957 E St. NW, Room B17

Friday, January 25

8:30 AM EST

Seminar: The Air Force Association's Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies

Topic: Defense

Peter Huessy: Phuessy@afa.org | 703-247-5839

Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St. SE

Have a great weekend!

Letter also went to:
- M. Keith Hodges
- Mamie Locke
- T. Montgomery Mason
- Michael Mullin
- Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
- Brenda Pogge
- Marcia Price
- Jeion Ward
- David Yancey

January 14, 2019

The Honorable Gordon C. Helsel
Delegate
Virginia General Assembly
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Delegate Helsel:

We write to you urgently requesting your assistance during the current General Assembly session to assist our communities in moving forward with the proposed Unmanned Systems Testing and Demonstration Facility to be located on Commonwealth owned property in York County near Williamsburg (map attached). Specifically, we request action either through the budget reconciliation process or other means to make this property available to our newly created Eastern Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (EVRIFA) on a no or minimal cost basis. We believe that either a long-term ground lease with nominal rent or a conveyance would achieve a successful result.

As a reminder this project has been under conceptual development over the past eighteen months, has been unanimously endorsed by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), and has already received start-up funding from Go Virginia. The concept of the EVRIFA in general, as well as the Unmanned Systems Testing and Demonstration Facility, has been widely seen as a groundbreaking effort to generate a new regional economic development model.

We regret that this request in its specific form is only reaching you after the General Assembly is in session. However, we have concluded that your intervention is necessary now that the Department of General Services has clarified its position that favorable disposition of the property without the expenditure of over \$2 million in local funds requires General Assembly direction. All of our conceptual planning to move forward with this project was based on the premise that the Commonwealth's land would be made available at a nominal cost based on the precedent that this particular piece of real estate had previously been leased on a long-term basis to the York County EDA at a very affordable cost. We conclude that without your help, this opportunity to make the Virginia Peninsula a leader in a new approach to regional economic diversification may be lost.

If you have any questions regarding this request or would like additional information please contact James Noel, York County Economic Development Director, jnoel@yorkcounty.gov, 757-890-3318.

The Honorable Gordon C. Helsel

January 14, 2019

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Thank you for your work on this important matter.

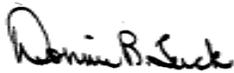
Sincerely,



Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr., Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors



Neil A. Morgan
County Administrator



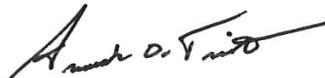
Donnie Tuck, Mayor
City of Hampton



Mary Bunting
City Manager



Paul Frieling, Mayor
City of Williamsburg



Andrew Trivette
City Manager



McKinley L. Price, DDS, Mayor
City of Newport News



Cynthia Rohlff
City Manager



W. Eugene Hunt, Jr., Mayor
City of Poquoson



J. Randall Wheeler
City Manager



James O. Icenhour, Jr., Chairman
James City County Board of Supervisors



Scott Stevens
County Administrator



Ashley C. Chriscoe, Chairman
Gloucester County Board of Supervisors



J. Brent Fedors
County Administrator

The Honorable Gordon C. Helsel

January 14, 2019

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Cc: The Honorable Ralph S. Northam, Governor
The Honorable Brian Ball, Secretary of Commerce and Trade
The Honorable Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., Secretary of Finance
The Honorable Keyanna Conner, Secretary of Administration

Colonial Parkway

Fly Zone

Phase 2 Development (175 acres)

Hawk's Nest Drive

Land Bay I

JYF Property (30 acres)

Land Bay II

Land Bay III

Phase 1		
Land Bay I	Land Bay II	Land Bay III:
62,400 S.F.*	51,000 S.F.*	46,800 S.F.*
12 Acres	27 Acres	26 Acres
Land Bay Totals:		
160,200 S.F. Total Structure Space		
65 Total Acres		
*Structure S.F. based on previous concept plan		

-  Concept Solar Panel Area
-  Fly Zone - 192 Acres
-  Development Area - 270 Acres

Newport News Waterworks Disclaimer:
 This drawing is neither a legally recorded map, nor a survey and it is not intended to be used as such. The information displayed is a compilation of records, information, and data obtained from various sources, including the City of Newport News which is not responsible for its accuracy or timeliness.

-  Sanitary Force Mains
-  Water Mains

Image Copyright 2013 Commonwealth of Virginia
 THIS IS NOT A LEGAL PLAT. This map should be used for information purposes. It is not suitable for detailed site planning.



Unmanned Systems Testing and Demonstration Site
 Go Virginia,
 Region 5 Proposal



GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS
 Department of Information Technology
 WWW.YORKCOUNTY.GOV

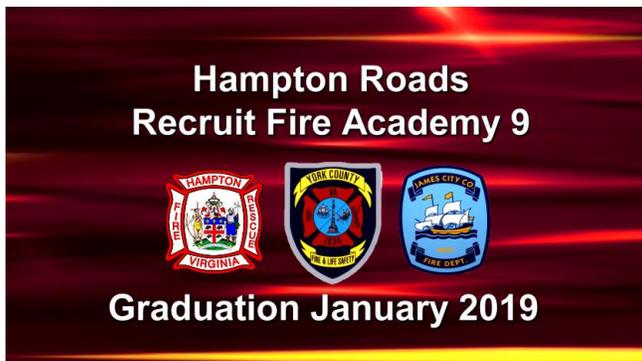


Now Airing on WYCG-TV

Cox Ch. 46
Verizon Ch. 38

Hampton Roads Recruit Fire Academy 9 Graduation Ceremony

On Air Every Day at 10am, 1pm, & 10pm



The Hampton Roads Recruit Fire Academy held its 9th graduation ceremony this month in Newport News. Seven of these new recruits are joining York County Fire and Life Safety with the rest headed to neighboring localities. Watch as they are admired for their hard work and pinned by their loved ones.

HRRFA 9 Graduation Ceremony* airs daily on WYCG-TV (Cox 46/Verizon 38) and is easily accessed from your desktop or mobile device at yorkcounty.gov/tv and on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

**This program was edited for television and airs at various other times throughout the schedule*

***Stay Tuned for More New Programs
Coming Soon***

York County Public Affairs

Randy Williford, Video Services Manager
757-890-3892

Paula Hersh, Public Affairs Manager
757-890-3324