

From: Craig Quigley <cquigley@hrmffa.org>
Sent: Saturday, February 16, 2019 7:18 AM
To: Craig Quigley
Subject: EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | FEBRUARY 15, 2019

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

Craig R. Quigley
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 | FEBRUARY 15, 2018
TOP STORIES

The Ship That Surprised Tokyo

The [wreckage](#) of the USS Hornet has been found near the Solomon Islands 76 years after the aircraft carrier was sunk during a World War II naval battle. It was discovered by a research vessel and has not been seen by human eyes in over three-quarters of a decade.

This WWII aircraft carrier became salient with every American when in 1942, it steamed across the Pacific with 16 U.S. Army Air Corps B-25 Mitchell bombers.

Hornet and her task force steamed to within 650 miles of Japan before launching her bombers. The B-25s flew west and struck targets across a wide

arc of Japan, bombing Tokyo, Yokosuka, Yokohama, Kobe and Nagoya. The attack - just five months after Pearl Harbor - destroyed the myth of Japan's invulnerability and provided a vital boost to morale in the United States. Before this mission, such a feat was never attempted.

The Hornet was [sunk](#) by Japanese forces in the Battle of Santa Cruz Island in October 1942. Japanese bombers and torpedo planes heavily damaged the ship, eventually causing its crew to abandon it. [Read the full story here.](#)

Border Update

President Donald Trump plans to sign a [compromise border security measure](#) in conjunction with declaring a national emergency to secure funding for a border wall, according to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

Congressional leaders were preparing Thursday to vote on the \$333 billion bipartisan spending package to avoid another possible government shutdown, despite mixed signals from President Trump.

The [legislation](#), which was released early Thursday morning, includes \$1.375 billion for border fencing and increases other border security funding. The legislation also funds a number of unrelated agencies that have become part of the overall spending fight.

The bill would give federal civilian workers a 1.9 percent pay raise, overriding a pay freeze signed by Trump during the shutdown.

It also would fund a new polar ice-breaker for the Coast Guard. Companies asked to submit designs are Bollinger Shipyards Inc., Fincantieri Marine Group,

General Dynamics Corp., Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc. and VT Halter Marine Inc., according to a Coast Guard contract.

Republicans touted that the bill provides 55 miles of barrier in the Border Patrol's highest priority areas, a \$942 million increase to Customs and Border Protection for 800 new officers, and \$615 million for new equipment at ports of entry. It also rejects Democrats' cap limit on detention beds. [Click here for more.](#)

NASA Says Goodbye to Faithful Mars Rover

NASA's Opportunity, the Mars rover that was built to operate for just three months but kept going and going, rolling across the rocky red soil, was pronounced dead Wednesday, 15 years after it landed on the planet.

The six-wheeled vehicle that helped gather [critical evidence](#) that ancient Mars might have been hospitable to life was remarkably spry up until eight months ago, when it was finally doomed by a ferocious dust storm.

Several factors allowed this marvelous piece of engineering to operate for such an extraordinarily longer period than originally conceived. One was the Martian weather--the mission team planned for a 90-day life for the rovers because it was thought that it would take about that long for falling dust to blanket the duo's solar panels, effectively choking them out. But strong winds came along and blasted both robots' arrays clean before the robots had to face down their first Martian winter.

Another, was the fact that the rovers had "the finest batteries in the solar system." Opportunity's main battery weathered more than 5,000 charge-

discharge cycles and still had about 85 percent of its capacity left when the mission-ending dust storm hit, according to MER project manager John Callas.

[Read more about how the rover lasted for so long here.](#)

[Click here to see some of the most fascinating pictures taken by Opportunity.](#)

Military Tech News

Unmanned Subs

The U.S. Navy has awarded a contract to Boeing for four Extra-Large Unmanned Underwater Vehicles ([XLUUVs](#)). In other words: giant drone subs.

The unmanned submarines, called [Orcas](#), will be able to undertake missions from scouting to sinking ships at very long ranges. Drone ships like the Orca will revolutionize war at sea, providing inexpensive, semi-disposable weapon systems that can fill the gaps in the front line—or simply go where it's too dangerous for crewed ships to go.

The contract stipulates Boeing will get \$43 million for “fabrication, test and delivery of four Orca Extra Large Unmanned Undersea Vehicles (XLUUVs) and associated support elements.” That’s just over ten million bucks per boat. [Full story here.](#)

Army's Pocket Drones

The U.S. Army will soon field more pocket-sized drones to its squads and platoons under a recent \$39.6 million contract award to FLIR Systems Inc. to support small-unit reconnaissance efforts.

The [FLIR](#) Black Hornet Personal Reconnaissance System, or PRS, resembles

a tiny helicopter and flies almost silently. Soldiers can use the onboard camera to look around corners in urban areas or recon unfamiliar terrain. [Click here for more.](#)

JLTVs

Army and Marine Corps combat units are starting to receive brand-new, high-performance Joint Light Tactical Vehicles. But if war with a major power ignites in the near future, the bulk of U.S. ground forces will go into battle with the same [Humvees](#) that struggled to survive the last war.

Today, the formidable-looking [JLTV](#)— which promises vastly improved crew protection and enhanced performance - is ready for battle. But it will take the military more than a decade to field roughly 58,000 of them to the Army and the Marines. Even then, tens of thousands of Humvees will remain in service. [Full story.](#)

Next Generation Squad Weapon Update

The U.S. Army may be close to a breakthrough in lethality with its Next Generation Squad Weapon program, but what will make it truly deadly is the new sighting system that guides the 6.8mm round on target, says the Defense Department official responsible for making Army and Marine infantry squads more lethal. The [NGSW](#) will feature a digital [fire control system](#) borrowing many features from today's main battle tanks, allowing shooters to engage targets faster and with greater precision than their opponents can muster.

The NGSW's fire control will be designed to work with the [Integrated Visual Augmentation System](#), or IVAS, a program Microsoft is developing for the Army under a \$480 million contract the service awarded in late November.

IVAS replaces the service's Heads-Up Display 3.0 effort to develop a high-tech digital system allowing soldiers to view their weapon sight reticle and other key tactical information through an advanced goggle or eyepiece.

Beast Mode

The Marines' F-35B Joint Strike Fighter achieved another first in recent weeks during an at-sea deployment when the aircraft conducted training strikes with an external ordnance load.

The 5th-generation fighters launched from the deck of the amphibious assault ship Wasp over the Philippine and East China Seas with a load of inert and live ordnance for a first-of-its-kind training mission, according to a news release from the deployed 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. The training took place between Jan. 26 and Feb. 6, officials said. [Read more about it here.](#)

Quick Hits

Marine Raider Gets Silver Star

A Marine special operator received the nation's [third-highest valor award](#) for his heroism in Iraq during the bloody fight to retake Mosul from the Islamic State saved his comrades' lives.

A staff sergeant with 2nd Marine Raider Battalion received the Silver Star for repeatedly braving enemy fire while surrounded by dozens of terrorists to take out a vehicle-borne explosive device that was careening toward him, according to his award citation. The previously undisclosed award was first reported by [Marine Corps Times.](#)

Attack Satellites?

China and Russia are developing lasers and a host of other anti-satellite weapons, according to a new Defense Intelligence Agency report that fleshes out concerns that Pentagon leaders have been highlighting for years.

“Both states are developing jamming and cyberspace capabilities, directed energy weapons, on-orbit capabilities, and ground-based anti-satellite missiles that can achieve a range of reversible to non-reversible effects,” the report said.

Both also maintain networks of telescopes, radars and satellites to track, characterize — and perhaps even target — U.S. satellites that watch enemy movements and missile launches, the report said. [Full story here.](#)

Marines Get Glimpse of Russian Tactics

Thousands of Marines carrying out crisis-response missions in the Middle East are getting a better look at what war with a potential adversary such as Russia might look like.

As the battlespace in the Middle East gets more complex—with Russia backing Syrian forces and Turkey, a NATO ally, fighting on the opposite side of the conflict from the U.S.—members of the Marine Corps' ground-based crisis response force are encountering new threats while operating in the region.

For a service that has spent nearly two decades fighting insurgent groups, it's providing a real-world look at what they can expect if they face off against more advanced enemies with sophisticated equipment. [Read more here.](#)

AFRICOM

“It’s really a misleading narrative to say that optimization is causing us to walk away from Africa,” Gen. Waldhauser said in an interview.

The Trump administration's planned U.S. troop reduction in Africa over the next two years will be minimal and won't undercut the United States' ability to counter China and Russia, according to the commanding general of U.S. Africa Command. But adding conventional forces would help U.S. efforts to build up local militaries and signal to them that America is a better long-term partner than Beijing, he said. [Read why he thinks the use of conventional troops could be more effective in combating China in Africa.](#)

Poland's Big Missile Deal With the U.S.

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki has announced his government will sign a deal to purchase the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS, on Feb. 13. The announcement was made Feb. 10 during Morawiecki's visit to the 1st Warsaw Armored Brigade.

"We need to have a strong, modern military. The armored, artillery and rocket forces ... are part of and will contribute to developing [it]," Morawiecki said.

The Polish Ministry of Defence said in a statement that the contract will be worth [\\$414 million](#). Poland's first HIMARS division is to comprise 18 combat-ready launchers and two launchers intended for training activities, the ministry said.

South China Sea

Two [U.S. warships](#) sailed near islands claimed by China in the South China Sea on Monday, a U.S. official told Reuters, a move likely to anger Beijing at a time of tense relations between the world's two biggest economies.

Beijing and Washington are locked in a trade war and the two sides are trying

to hammer out a deal ahead of a March 1 deadline when U.S. tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese imports are scheduled to increase to 25 percent from 10 percent.

China's foreign ministry said the country's navy "[warned off](#)" the U.S. warships Monday as they attempted to assert free navigation rights in the disputed South China Sea. The ships sailed close by Mischief Reef, where China has built an airbase on reclaimed land, and the adjacent Second Thomas Shoal, which is occupied by the Philippines.

This Day in History

1798: The first serious fist fight occurs in Congress.

1862: Union [General Ulysses S. Grant](#) launches a major assault on [Fort Donelson](#), TN.

1898: The [U.S. battleship Maine](#) blows up in Havana Harbor, killing 268 sailors and bringing hordes of Western cowboys and gunfighters rushing to enlist in the [Spanish-American War](#).

1934: The U.S. Congress passes the Civil Works Emergency Relief Act, allotting new funds for Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

1940: Hitler orders that all British merchant ships will be considered [warships](#).

1942: [British](#) forces in Singapore [surrender](#) to Japanese General Tomoyuki [Yamashita](#).

1943: The Germans break the American Army's lines at the Fanid-Sened Sector in Tunisia, North Africa.

1944: American bombers attack the Abbey of [Monte Cassino](#) in an effort to neutralize it as a German observation post in central [Italy](#).

1946: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police arrest 22 as Soviet spies.

1950: Joseph Stalin and Mao Tse-tung sign a mutual defense treaty in Moscow.

1961: Eighteen members of the U.S. figure skating team are lost in an airplane [crash](#) in Belgium.

1965: Canada's maple leaf [flag](#) is raised for the first time.

1967: Thirteen U.S. helicopters are shot down in one day in [Vietnam](#).

See more at [history.net](#)

Look Ahead

Monday, February 18

1:00 PM EST

Event: Sen. Christopher Coons, (D-Del.)

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Jack Haines: Jackh@rusi.org

RUSI, 61 Whitehall, London, U.K.

Tuesday, February 19

8:00 AM EST

Meeting: Defense Department; Office of the Secretary; Defense Undersecretary
for Research and Engineering; Defense Science Board

Topic: Defense Science

Col. Milo Hyde: milo.w.hyde2.mil@mail.mil | 703-571-0081

Executive Conference Center, 4075 Wilson Boulevard, Floor 3, Arlington, Va.

10:00 AM EST

Discussion: The Brookings Institution

Topic: Defense

events@brookings.edu | 202-797-6105

Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Falk Auditorium

11:45 AM EST

Conference: The Hudson Institute

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Carolyn Stewart: cstewart@hudson.org | 202-974-6456

Hudson Institute, 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 400

12:00 PM EST

Briefing: The Business Council for International Understanding

Topic: Foreign Affairs

TBA

12:30 PM EST

Discussion: The American Bar Association

Topic: Foreign Affairs
Kimberly Nguyen: k-nguyen@bciu.org | 202-595-2668
ABA, 740 15th St. NW

1:00 PM EST

Meeting: Defense Department; Defense Acquisition Regulations System
Topic: Defense Contracts
Mark Center, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Level B-1, Auditorium, Alexandria, Va.

2:00 PM EST

Discussion: The American Security Project
Topic: Environment
202-347-4267
ASP, 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Lower Level Conference Room

Wednesday, February 20

8:00 AM EST

Meeting: Defense Department; Office of the Secretary; Defense Undersecretary
for Research and Engineering; Defense Science Board
Topic: Defense Science
Col. Milo Hyde: milo.w.hyde2.mil@mail.mil | 703-571-0081
Executive Conference Center, 4075 Wilson Boulevard, Floor 3, Arlington, Va.

8:30 AM EST

Summit: Fedscoop
Topic: Government Operations
hello@fedscoop.com | 202-887-8001
The Newseum, 555 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

12:15 PM EST

Discussion: New America

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Maria Elkin: elkin@newamerica.org | 202-847-4769

New America, 740 15th St. NW, Suite 900

12:15 PM EST

Discussion: New America

740 15th Street NW, Suite 900

2:00 PM EST

Book Discussion: The Henry L. Stimson Center

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Jim Baird: communications@stimson.org | 202-223-5956

Stimson Center, 1211 Connecticut Avenue NW, Eighth Floor

4:00 PM EST

Discussion: The Intelligence and National Security Alliance and the National
Security Institute

Topic: Technology

Toya Cribbs: tcribbs@INSAonline.org | 703-224-4672

George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, 3351 Fairfax Drive,
Room 121, Arlington, Va.

7:00 PM EST

Book Discussion: Politics and Prose Bookstore

Topic: Foreign Affairs

books@politics-prose.com | 202-364-1919

Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW

Thursday, February 21

8:00 AM EST

Discussion: The National Defense Industrial Association

Topic: Defense

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

NDIA, 2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, Va.

9:00 AM EST

Hearing: National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service

Topic: Universal Service

Cristina Flores: christina.flores@inspire2serve.gov | 703-571-3743

American University, Washington College of Law, 4300 Nebraska Avenue NW,
Claudio Grossman Hall

9:00 AM EST

Briefing: Duke in D.C.

Topic: Venezuela

122, Cannon House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Discussion: The Arab Center

Topic: Foreign Affairs

202-750-4000

National Press Club, 14th and F Streets NW, Holeman Lounge

10:00 AM EST

Meeting: State Department
Topic: International Maritime Ship Systems/Equipment
Coast Guard Headquarters Building at St. Elizabeth's, 2703 Martin Luther King
Jr. Avenue SE, room 6K15-15

11:00 AM EST

Book Discussion: <https://www.cato.org/The> Cato Institute

Topic: Foreign Affairs

events@cato.org | 202-789-5200

Cato Institute, 1000 Massachusetts Avenue NW, F.A. Hayek Auditorium

12:30 PM EST

Discussion: The Council on Foreign Relations

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Jenny Mallamo: jmallamo@cfr.org | 202-509-8455

CFR, 1777 F St. NW

2:00 PM EST

Webinar: Govexec

202-739-8501

Topic: Government Operations

Friday, February 22

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

10:00 AM EST

Discussion: The Center for Strategic and International Studies

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Andrew Schwartz: 202-775-3242

CSIS, 1616 Rhode Island Avenue NW

11:00 AM EST

Meeting: Defense Department; Office of the Secretary; General Counsel of the
Defense Department

Topic: Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces

Dwight Sullivan: dwight.h.sullivan.civ@mail.mil | 703-695-1055

One Liberty Center, 875 N Randolph St., Suite 150, Arlington, Va.

12:30 PM EST

Discussion: Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies

Topic: Foreign Affairs

gucomm@georgetown.edu | 202-687-4328

Georgetown University, 37th and O Streets NW, Inter-cultural Center, Room
141

12:45 PM EST

Discussion: The Council on Foreign Relations

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Jenny Mallamo: jmallamo@cfr.org | 202-509-8455

CFR, 1777 F St. NW

5:00 PM EST

Discussion: George Mason University's Middle East and Islamic Studies

Program, and the Arab Studies Institute

Topic: Foreign Affairs

meis@gmu.edu

GMU, 4441 George Mason Boulevard, Merten Hall, Room 1201, Fairfax, Va.

Have a wonderful weekend!

From: Craig Quigley <cquigley@hrmffa.org>
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2019 2:41 PM
To: Craig Quigley
Subject: EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | FEBRUARY 22, 2019

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

**Craig R. Quigley
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 | FEBRUARY 22, 2019
TOP STORIES**

To Start Off, Some Interesting Military Tech Updates

Coast Guard Gets Funding For Icebreaker

The bill that avoided a second government shutdown finally provided the \$655 million for a badly needed [new icebreaker](#) for the Coast Guard and \$20 million more for start of construction on a second one.

Funding for the new icebreaker, to be called a "Polar Security Cutter," had been at risk of being diverted to construction of the southern border wall. But the bill

signed into law last Friday by President Donald Trump earmarked money in the Department of Homeland Security's budget for a new ship to replace the Coast Guard's aging "Polar Star," the service's only functioning heavy icebreaker.

[Read the full story here.](#)

Falcon Air Defense

An industry team consisting of Lockheed Martin, Saab and Diehl Defence have unveiled a [new air defense system](#), known as the Falcon at IDEX 2019 in Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates. The three companies are aiming for the Falcon to replace the UAE's aging Hawk air defense systems--and potentially those of other countries as well.

The system is made up of Saab's Giraffe S-band radar, a modified version of Diehl Defence's IRIS-T air-to-air missile, and Lockheed's Skykeeper command system. The three companies began working together in 2016, specifically targeting the UAE's need to replace their Hawk systems. [Click here for more.](#)

New F-15s

The U.S. Air Force will go ahead and buy [brand-new F-15s](#) even as it purchases large numbers of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. Updated with the latest technology, the F-15X can carry nearly two dozen air-to-air missiles and will likely work together with stealth jets to take on fleets of enemy fighters.

An article at [Bloomberg](#) has revealed the USAF will request eight F-15X fighters in its budget. The service plans to buy 80 fighters over five years. That's enough to fit out a wing of 72 aircraft, divided into three squadrons of 24 planes each, with eight spares. That's just the five year projection, though, and the service may buy additional fighters beyond 2025.

The F-15X will come in two versions, a single seat F-15CX and a twin seat F-15EX. According to Aviation Week & Space Technology, other than crew size the two jets will be identical. Here's a Boeing promotional video for the F-15X, also known as Advanced Eagle.

Raytheon Helo Radios

The U.S. Army recently awarded Raytheon Co. a \$406 million contract to supply the service with [aviation radios](#) over the next five years.

Raytheon will manufacture up to 5,000 ARC-231A radio systems that will be installed on the Army's existing helicopters, according to a Feb. 14 company press release. The ARC-231A meets the Pentagon's requirements for "airborne, multi-band, multi-mission, secure anti-jam voice, data and imagery transmission and provides network-capable communications in a compact radio set," according to the Raytheon website. [Full story here.](#)

The F-21, a Beefed Up Bird

Lockheed Martin on Wednesday surprised the aviation world by unveiling the [F-21 fighter jet](#), a proposed tailor-made version of the F-16, which it is pitching to the Indian Air Force. The U.S. defense firm had previously offered its F-16 fighter used by countries around the world for the Indian air force's ongoing competition for 114 planes to be made in [India](#).

But Lockheed, unveiling the plan at an air show in the southern city of Bengaluru, said it was offering India a [new plane](#) configured for its needs. It would carry technologies from its fifth generation planes, the F-22 and the F-35, the firm said.

AMPV Updates

The U.S. Army just [awarded](#) BAE Systems contract modifications worth up to \$575 million for its Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle effort to replace the Vietnam War-era M113 armored personnel carrier.

The two contract modifications mark the [beginning of low-rate production](#) for the highly mobile, survivable, multipurpose vehicle designed to keep up with M1 tanks and M2 Bradley fighting vehicles in the service's armored brigade combat teams (ABCT), according to a BAE press release.

Production will include five variants of the AMPV: command-and-control; general purpose; medical evacuation; medical treatment; and mortar carrier. The tracked AMPV meets the Army's all-terrain mobility requirements and offers increased protection, the release states. [Read the full story here.](#)

Space Force Updates

Seven months and one day after President Trump surprised the Joint Chiefs chairman by ordering up a new branch of the military, the president has formally declared what he wants: [a new branch under the Air Force](#), something like the Marine Corps under the Navy Department.

According to SPD-4, the Space Force will initially reside under the Department of the Air Force and it will be led by a civilian undersecretary of the Air Force for space as well as a four-star general serving as the Space Force chief of staff — a measure that is less ambitious than the stand-alone service originally

envisioned by the president. [Read more here.](#)

Space Force HQ

Florida lawmakers are already petitioning President Donald Trump to place part of the newly minted U.S. Space Force in their state. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis said he will formally ask the president to locate the department's unified combatant command for space at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral. [Click here for the full story.](#)

Space Force Contract Awards

The battle between military space juggernaut United Launch Alliance and its upstart rival SpaceX continues, with the two companies splitting a collection of launch [contracts worth \\$739 million](#) awarded by the Air Force on Tuesday.

ULA, a joint venture of Boeing and Lockheed Martin, picked up a \$442 million award for three launches, while Elon Musk's SpaceX nabbed a \$297 million contract for another three launches. Each [company](#) will be responsible for "launch vehicle production, mission integration, mission launch operations/spaceflight worthiness, and mission unique activities," according to the [contract](#) award.

Russia

USS Donald Cook Sails the Black Sea

The Arleigh Burke-class destroyer [Donald Cook](#) transited the Dardanelles Strait on [Tuesday](#) en route to its second Black Sea operation in a month, as Russia again shadows the ship amid growing tensions between Moscow and the West.

The ship made a port stop last month in Batumi, Georgia, and conducted an exercise with two of that country's coast guard vessels, while the Russian navy watched. [Full story here.](#)

Storm Damages S-400 Purchase

A storm has damaged parts of a Russian S-400 surface-to-air missile system while it was [being shipped](#) to China, RIA news agency said on Friday, quoting a Russian official. China became the first foreign buyer of the system from Russia under a contract signed in 2014.

The vessel has brought back the damaged components to Russia's port of Ust-Luga for evaluation, Mariya Vorobyova, spokeswoman for the military and technical cooperation service told RIA.

Poseidon Nuclear Torpedo

Russia released the first video of its "Poseidon" nuclear torpedo undergoing testing on Wednesday. [Poseidon](#) is 70 feet long and 6.5 feet wide, and is meant to be carried externally by Russian submarines or internally within special carrier submarines. The nuclear-powered drone is designed to cross entire continents, dive up to 3,280 feet, and travel up to 80 miles per hour underwater. This combination of deep diving capability and high speed will make Poseidon difficult to intercept.

The drone is designed to target a coastal asset such as a submarine base, port, or coastal city. The warhead's explosive yield is said to be 2 megatons, or 2,000 kilotons. By comparison, the Hiroshima bomb was approximately 16 kilotons. [Read more.](#)

Paul Whelan

A court in Moscow extended the detention of accused spy and former U.S. Marine [Paul Whelan](#) by three months Friday, one of his attorneys told CBS News.

Vladimir Zherebenkov said the court ordered Whelan held until May 28, when he's to appear in court again. Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) sought the [extension](#). Whelan, who has U.S., British, Canadian and Irish citizenship, denies the charges against him.

Quick Hits

Sailor from Famous V-J Day Photo Dies

The ecstatic [sailor](#), George Mendonsa, shown kissing a woman in Times Square celebrating the end of World War II, has died at 95.

[Mendonsa](#) was shown kissing Greta Zimmer Friedman, a dental assistant in a nurse's uniform, on Aug. 14, 1945. Known as V-J Day, it was the day Japan surrendered to the United States. The photo by Alfred Eisenstaedt became one of the most famous photographs of the 20th century.

In related news, a statue commemorated to Japan's unconditional surrender and the iconic photo, was recently [vandalized](#). "#MeToo" was spray painted on the leg of the [statue](#). Police said in a news release that officers found the phrase painted in red on the left leg of the woman on the "Unconditional Surrender" statue in Sarasota, FL early Tuesday.

Wisconsin Shipyard

The days of dramatic pictures of ships launching sideways into the water at Marinette Marine shipyard in Wisconsin are likely coming to an end, a representative from Fincantieri's international ship business told *Defense News* on Tuesday.

As part of investments Fincantieri is making in the yard ahead of building an up-gunned frigate version of Lockheed Martin's mono-hull variant of the littoral combat ship for Saudi Arabia, the company is investing in a modernized boat-launching facility that gently floats the ships rather than dropping them sideways into the water. [Read the full story.](#)

This Day in History

1613: [Mikhail Romanov](#) is elected czar of Russia—beginning the Romanov dynasty.

1797: The last invasion of Britain takes place when some 1,400 Frenchmen land at [Fishguard](#) in Wales.

1819: Spain signs a [treaty](#) with the United States [ceding](#) eastern Florida.

1847: Battle of [Buena Vista](#) begins. The Americans, under future President Zachary Taylor, are outnumbered 3:1 by the Mexicans, under Santa Ana—yet prevail in the end due to their superior artillery.

1865: Federal troops [finally](#) capture [Wilmington](#), N.C.

1902: A fistfight breaks out in the Senate. Senator Benjamin Tillman suffers a bloody nose for accusing Senator John McLaurin of bias on the Philippine tariff issue.

1909: The [Great White Fleet](#) returns to Norfolk, Virginia, from an around-the-world show of [naval power](#).

1911: Canadian Parliament votes to preserve the union with the British Empire.

1926: Pope Pius rejects Mussolini's offer of aid to the Vatican.

1942: President Franklin Roosevelt orders Gen. Douglas MacArthur to leave the Philippines. MacArthur would not actually leave Corregidor until March 11.

1954: U.S. is to install 60 [Thor](#) nuclear missiles in Britain.

1962: A Soviet bid for new Geneva arms talks is turned down by the U.S.

1963: Moscow warns the U.S. that an attack on [Cuba](#) would mean war.

1968: The [Tet Offensive](#) comes to a [close](#).

1967: [Operation Junction City](#) becomes the largest U.S. operation in Vietnam.

1980: USA defeats Soviets in famous Olympic hockey game in Lake Placid, NY, in what becomes known as the [Miracle on Ice](#). USA would go on to defeat

Finland two days later to capture the gold medal.

1984: Britain and the U.S. send warships to the Persian Gulf following an Iranian offensive against Iraq.

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

Look Ahead

Saturday, February 23

1:00 PM EST

Book Discussion: Politics and Prose Bookstore

Topic: Social Issues

Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW

Monday, February 25

9:30 AM EST

Discussion: The Henry L. Stimson Center

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Stimson Center, 1211 Connecticut Avenue NW, Eighth Floor

12:00 PM EST

Discussion: The George Washington University Elliott School of International

Affairs

Topic: Foreign Affairs

GWU Elliott School, 1957 E St. NW, Room 505

12:30 PM EST

Discussion: The Center for American Progress

Topic: Foreign Affairs

CAP, 1333 H St. NW, 10th Floor

1:00 PM EST

Briefing: The American Security Project

Topic: Homeland Security

188 Russell Senate Office Building

Tuesday, February 26

7:00 AM EST

Discussion: The Association of the U.S. Army Institute of Land Warfare

Topic: Defense

AUSA, 2425 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, Va.

8:00 AM EST

Event: The DAV Department of Maryland, the DAV Department of the District of Columbia, AMVETS National, and the Women Veterans United Committee

Topic: Defense

SVC-202-203 U.S. Capitol

8:00 AM EST

Meeting: Veterans Affairs Department

Topic: Veteran Rehabilitation Research and Development

20 F St. Conference Center, 20 F St. NW

9:00 AM EST

Conference: Govexec and Riverbed Technology

Topic: Government Operations

Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

9:30 AM EST

Hearing: Senate Armed Services Committee

Topic: U.S. Strategic Command/U.S. Northern Command

Senate Armed Services Committee

216 Hart Senate Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Appropriations Committee

Topic: VA General Oversight

House Appropriations Committee, Military Construction, VA and Related

Agencies Subcommittee

2359 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Armed Services Committee

Topic: Naval Surface Forces Readiness

House Armed Services Committee, Seapower and Projection Forces

Subcommittee | House Armed Services Committee, Readiness Subcommittee

2118 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Homeland Security Committee

Topic: Securing Surface Transportation from Cyber Attacks

House Homeland Security Committee, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure

Protection Subcommittee

310 Cannon House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Judiciary Committee

Topic: Trump Administration's Family Separation Policy

House Judiciary Committee

2141 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Science, Space, and Technology Committee

Topic: Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy

House Science, Space and Technology Committee, Energy Subcommittee

2318 Rayburn House Office Building

12:00 PM EST

Discussion: The Heritage Foundation

Topic: Defense

Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE

12:30 PM EST

Discussion: The Woodrow Wilson Center

Topic: Foreign Affairs

WWC, One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, Ronald Reagan Building, 1300
Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Sixth Floor

2:00 PM EST

Hearing: House Armed Services Committee

Topic: Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Withdrawal Implications

House Armed Services Committee, Strategic Forces Subcommittee

2118 Rayburn House Office Building

2:00 PM EST

Hearing: House Armed Services Committee

Topic: Defense Department IT/Cybersecurity

House Armed Services Committee, Emerging Threats and Capabilities
Subcommittee

2212 Rayburn House Office Building

2:00 PM EST

Hearing: House Foreign Affairs Committee

Topic: Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela

House Foreign Affairs Committee, Western Hemisphere Subcommittee

2172 Rayburn House Office Building

2:00 PM EST

Hearing: Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and House Veterans' Affairs
Committee

Topic: Disabled American Veterans Legislative Presentation
Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee | House Veterans' Affairs Committee
G-50 Dirksen Senate Office Building

2:30 PM EST

Meeting: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
Topic: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue NW, Suite 700

3:00 PM EST

Briefing: Senate Armed Services Committee
Topic: B-21 Raider
Senate Armed Services Committee, AirLand Subcommittee
SVC-217 U.S. Capitol

4:30 PM EST

Discussion: The Institute of World Politics
Topic: Foreign Affairs
IWP, 1521 16th St. NW

Wednesday, February 27

8:00 AM EST

Meeting: Veterans Affairs Department
Topic: Veteran Rehabilitation Research and Development
20 F St. Conference Center, 20 F St. NW

9:00 AM EST

Meeting: Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board
Topic: Federal Accounting Standards Issues
Government Accountability Office, 441 G St. NW, Room 7C13

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Appropriations Committee
Topic: Election Security
House Appropriations Committee, Financial Services and General Government
Subcommittee
2362-A Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Appropriations Committee
Topic: Border Wall's Effect on Military Construction/Readiness
House Appropriations Committee, Military Construction, VA and Related
Agencies Subcommittee
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Appropriations Committee
Topic: U.S. Agency for International Development
House Appropriations Committee, State, Foreign Operations and Related
Programs Subcommittee
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Homeland Security Committee

Topic: Chemical Facility Security
House Homeland Security Committee
310 Cannon House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
Topic: Climate Change Impacts on Oceans and Coasts
House Science, Space and Technology Committee, Environment
Subcommittee
2318 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and House Veterans' Affairs
Committee
Topic: American Legion Legislative Presentation
House Veterans' Affairs Committee | Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee
G-50 Dirksen Senate Office Building

10:15 AM EST

Discussion: The Hudson Institute
Topic: Defense
Hudson Institute, 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 400

10:15 AM EST

Hearing: Senate Foreign Relations Committee
Topic: U.S. Role in the World
Senate Foreign Relations Committee
419 Dirksen Senate Office Building

11:00 AM EST

Discussion: The National Defense Industrial Association

Topic: Defense

River's Edge Catering and Conference Center, 46870 Tate Road, Building
2815, Patuxent River, Md.

11:00 AM EST

Meeting: The National Defense Industrial Association Expeditionary Warfare
Division

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Army Navy Country Club, 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, Va.

12:00 PM EST

Book Discussion: The Institute of World Politics

Topic: Defense

IWP, 1521 16th St. NW

2:00 PM EST

Discussion: The Brookings Institution

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Falk Auditorium

2:00 PM EST

Hearing: House Armed Services Committee

Topic: Transgender Military Service Policy

House Armed Services Committee, Military Personnel Subcommittee
2118 Rayburn House Office Building

2:30 PM EST

Hearing: Senate Armed Services Committee

Topic: Military Personnel Policies/Military Family Readiness
Senate Armed Services Committee, Personnel Subcommittee
222 Russell Senate Office Building

Thursday, February 28

8:00 AM EST

Meeting: Veterans Affairs Department

Topic: Veteran Rehabilitation Research and Development
20 F St. Conference Center, 20 F St. NW

9:30 AM EST

Hearing: Senate Armed Services Committee

Topic: Nuclear Policy and Posture
Senate Armed Services Committee
G-50 Dirksen Senate Office Building

10:00 AM EST

Hearing: House Appropriations Committee

Topic: Female Veterans Access to VA
House Appropriations Committee, Military Construction, VA and Related
Agencies Subcommittee
HT-2 U.S. Capitol

6:00 PM EST

Book Discussion: The Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments

Topic: Foreign Affairs

CSBA, 1667 K St. NW, Suite 950

Friday, February 1

8:00 AM EST

Meeting: Veterans Affairs Department

Topic: Veteran Rehabilitation Research and Development

20 F St. Conference Center, 20 F St. NW

9:00 AM EST

Meeting: Homeland Security Department; Customs and Border Protection

Topic: 21st Century Customs Framework

Commerce Department, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW

Have a great week!