

From: Craig Quigley <cquigley@hrmffa.org>
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2020 10:47 AM
To: Craig Quigley
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Executive Insight Brief

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

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THE
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EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF

October 30, 2020



TOP STORIES

Sen. Jack Reed is a quiet professional. If Democrats win the Senate, he'll be front and center.

WASHINGTON — [Rhode Island Democratic Sen. Jack Reed is known to talk softly.](#) But if Democrats retake the Senate, he could carry a megaphone as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

A deferential, bipartisan and respected ranking member for the last six years opposite Republican chairmen John McCain and Jim Inhofe, Reed has never stepped into such an agenda-setting and high-profile role in his decades-long legislative career. Despite credentials as an Army Ranger, paratrooper, and graduate of West Point and Harvard Law School, he's shown little interest in raising his profile outside Washington and Rhode Island.

The spry 70-year-old tends to zip past reporters in the Senate, and when he does stop, they sometimes strain to hear him. He appears on national television rarely. He twice stepped out of the running for defense secretary under President Barack Obama, opting to continue his quieter Senate career.

Administration notifies Congress it plans to approve F-35 sale to UAE

The Trump administration is moving ahead with a planned [F-35 fighter jet sale to the United Arab Emirates](#) (UAE), potentially tipping the scales of military power in the Middle East.

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) on Thursday confirmed that the administration had informally notified Congress of the sale, which would allow the UAE to buy the fifth-generation fighter jet, currently owned only by Israel in the region. Engel, who warned that rushing the sale “is not in anyone’s interest,” urged his colleagues to consider the stakes in selling the advanced aircraft to the UAE.

The U.S. military is targeting foreign actors to defend the presidential election

WASHINGTON — [U.S. Cyber Command is working in foreign networks to disrupt malicious activity](#) and share intelligence with partners as a way to protect the integrity of the Nov. 3 presidential election.

Gen. Paul Nakasone, the head of Cyber Command and the National Security Agency, has said the defense of the 2020 election is his No. 1 priority. Following allegations by U.S. intelligence agencies that Russia tried to interfere in the 2016 election — a fact the Kremlin denies — there has been consternation about what the broader U.S. government, and especially the Department of Defense, can do to protect the democratic process. Furthermore, the defense secretary, Mark Esper, has said that securing America’s elections is now an enduring mission for his department.

Trump has ‘no plan’ to exit Afghanistan by Christmas, key lawmaker says

WASHINGTON — Weeks after the U.S. military was blindsided by President Donald Trump’s assertion that all [U.S. troops will be out of Afghanistan by the end of the year](#), a top lawmaker on defense says there was no actual plan to withdraw troops by Christmas. House Armed Services Committee Chairman Adam Smith on Thursday echoed U.S. officials who have reportedly said there were not aware of the plan and received no actual order to accelerate the gradual pullout they’ve been executing. The military will continue a gradual

pullout, Smith said.

“I think the idea of bringing those numbers down as the president has done makes a lot of sense,” Smith, D-Wash., said at a Center for New American Security webinar. “Now, there’s been sort of a plan to do that, and there’s sort of been a tweet we should get out by Christmas. Well, there’s no plan to get out by Christmas, there’s just not. The White House hasn’t submitted one and the Pentagon doesn’t have one.”

To Thwart Invasion, Taiwan Points Powerful New Missiles At Chinese Bases

Taiwan is stocking up on air- and ground-launched rockets that, in the event of war with China, could pummel Chinese invasion forces before they even leave their bases. Taipei’s possible, multi-billion-dollar acquisition of American-made Standoff Land-Attack Missiles—[Expanded Response and High-Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems](#) could help to counter China’s own expanding missile arsenal.

Beijing long has planned to lob hundreds or even thousands of missiles at Taiwan as a prelude to any invasion. Now Taipei aims to lob its own missiles right back. “HIMARS and SLAM-ER are cutting-edge technologically and will diversify and improve the capacity of Taiwan’s counter-strike missile force,” said Ian Easton, a Taiwan expert with the Project 2049 Institute in Virginia.

Space Force's second-in-command tests positive for coronavirus

[Gen. David Thompson, the Space Force’s vice chief of space operations](#), has tested positive for COVID-19, the Air Force announced Wednesday.

Thompson took the test after being informed that a close family member had contracted the virus, the Air Force said in a statement, adding that the Space Force official is now isolating and working from home.

“The Department of the Air Force continues to follow established DoD [Department of Defense] and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] policies and guidelines for COVID,” the statement added. “Measures include temperature testing, social distancing to the greatest extent possible, the wearing of masks when social distancing is not possible, and contact tracing and quarantining, if needed.”

Gun Sales Strong Ahead Of Election Day, Says Sturm, Ruger

Gun sales remain strong during the COVID-19 pandemic as Election Day draws closer. With the president election just days away, prominent [gunmaker Sturm, Ruger RGR - 2.3% reported strong quarterly profits and revenue](#), as fears of coronavirus, civil unrest and gun control drove sales in the last three months of coronavirus pandemic. Sturm, Ruger reported net sales of \$145.7 million and diluted earnings of \$1.39 per share for the quarter ended Sept. 26, 2020, compared to net sales of \$95 million and diluted earnings of 27 cents during the same period last year. That's a one-third gain in sales, and nearly quadruple the earnings of last year. "Consumer demand showed no signs of letting up during the quarter as concerns about personal protection and home defense were stoked by civil unrest in some cities around the United States," said Chief Executive Officer Christopher Killoy in a company statement.

Strong earthquake strikes Aegean Sea, shaking Turkey, Greece

ISTANBUL (Reuters) - [A strong earthquake struck the Aegean Sea on Friday and was felt in both Greece and Turkey](#), where some buildings collapsed in the coastal province of Izmir and a government minister said people were trapped in rubble. People crowded onto the streets in Izmir city, witnesses said, after the quake struck with a magnitude of up to 7.0. The tremor could be felt as far away as Istanbul and on Greek islands, where officials said some people were panicking although there were no immediate reports of injuries. There were various reports of damage to property, with Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Soyly saying six buildings had collapsed in two districts of the coastal city of Izmir. Urbanisation Minister Murat Kurum put the number of collapsed buildings in the area at five, and added that some people were stuck under the rubble. Izmir mayor Tunc Soyer said nearly 20 buildings had collapsed in the province.

Inside the Oval Office

1 ARRIVAL

[Joshua Sean "Josh" Hodges](#) has a new position as [Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director](#) at Western Hemisphere Affairs [WHA], National Security Council Staff, Executive Office of the President [EOP]

Recently: Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator at Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, Office of the Administrator, United States Agency for International Development (2020 - 2020)

Eisenhower Executive Office Building, 1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 365, Washington, District of Columbia 20504

(202) 456-9131

joshua.s.hodges2@nsc.eop.gov

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/joshua-h-b1324518/>

1 DEPARTURE

[Jessica L. \(Laux\) Donlon](#) has left the position of [Deputy General Counsel for Oversight](#) at General Counsel [GC], Office of Management and Budget [OMB], Executive Office of the President [EOP]

Federal Personnel

3 ARRIVALS

[Paul E. Salamanca](#) has a new position as [Deputy Assistant Attorney General](#) at Office of the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice [DOJ]

Recently: Senior Counsel at Environment and Natural Resources Division, Office of the Associate Attorney General, United States Department of Justice (2019 - 2020)

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, District of Columbia 20530

(202) 514-2701

paul.salamanca@usdoj.gov

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/paul-salamanca-65b10419a/>

[Molly Block](#) has a new position as [Deputy Associate Administrator](#) at Office of Policy, United States Environmental Protection Agency [EPA]

Recently: Assistant Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy at Office of Policy, United States Environmental Protection Agency (2020 - 2020)

William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, District of Columbia 20460

(202) 564-4332

block.molly@epa.gov

<https://www.linkedin.com/pub/molly-block/52/b0/483>

[Carlos I. Suarez](#) has a new position as [Assistant Administrator \(Acting\)](#) at Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean [LAC], Office of the Administrator [AID/A], United States Agency for International Development [USAID]

Recently: Chief of Staff at U.S. Mission to the Organization of American States, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, United States Department of State (2018 - 2020)

Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, District of Columbia 20523-1000

(202) 712-4040

csuarez@usaid.gov

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/carlos-ignacio-suarez-6032499/>

2 DEPARTURES

[Thomas "Tom" Corry](#) has left the position of [Director](#) at Office of Communications, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS], United States Department of Health and Human Services [HHS]

[Caryn \(Moore\) Lund](#) has left the position of [Senior Director of Public Liaison](#) at Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy [OST-P], Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation Policy [S-3], United States Department of Transportation [DOT]

Key Congressional Staffers

2 ARRIVALS

[Nicholas Scoufaras](#) has a new position as [Legislative Director](#) at Office of Representative Rob Woodall

Recently: Senior Policy Advisor at Office of Representative Rob Woodall, United States House of Representatives (2019 - 2020)

Longworth House Office Building, 1724, Washington, District of Columbia 20515-1007

(202) 225-4272

nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nicholas-scoufaras-86590440/>

[Janet Rossi](#) has a new position as [Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director](#) at Office of Representative Kay Granger

Recently: Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director at Office of Representative Rob Woodall, United States House of Representatives (2019 - 2020)

Longworth House Office Building, 1026, Washington, District of Columbia 20515-4312

(202) 225-5071

janet.rossi@mail.house.gov

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/janet-rossi-6693944/>

State & Local Decision Makers

2 ARRIVALS

[Vanessa Garrett Harley, Esq.](#) has a new position as [First Deputy Managing Director](#) at Office of the Managing Director, City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Recently: Deputy Managing Director for Criminal Justice at Office of the Managing Director, City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2018 - 2020)

1401 JFK Blvd, Room 1430, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

(215) 686-3641

vanessa.garrett.harley@phila.gov

[Tumar Alexander](#) has a new position as [Managing Director](#) at Office of the Managing Director, City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Recently: First Deputy Managing Director at Office of the Managing Director, City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2018 - 2020)

1401 JFK Blvd, Room 1430, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102

(215) 686-3480

tumar.alexander@phila.gov



THIS DAY IN HISTORY

[1340](#) Battle of Rio Salado (or Tarifa): King Afonso IV of Portugal and King Alfonso XI of Castile defeat Sultan Abu al-Hasan 'Ali of Morocco and Yusuf I of Granada, last Marīnids invasion of Iberian Peninsula

1899 Battle of Ladysmith, Natal: Boers defeat the British, leading to the Siege of Ladysmith

1905 "October Manifesto" Russian Tsar Nicholas II grants civil liberties and accepts the first Duma (Parliament)

1917 British government gives final approval to Balfour Declaration

1973 The Bosphorus Bridge in Istanbul, Turkey is completed, connecting the continents of Europe and Asia over the Bosphorus for the first time



LOOK AHEAD

Homeland Security Department; Federal Emergency Management Agency holds a meeting by teleconference of the Technical Mapping Advisory Council, October 29-30.

Agenda includes: Review the 2020 Annual Report format and discuss the content of each subcommittee section

10:00 AM EDT on 10/30/2020

michael.nakagaki@fema.dhs.gov

202-212-2148

Michael Nakagaki, [Note: RSVP required by 5 p.m. October 27 to FEMA-TMAC@fema.dhs.gov (Attention: Michael Nakagaki); Dial-in at 646-828-7666; Meeting ID 161 9562 4614#; Password 875873#; Webcast at <https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/16195624614>; Identification number, 16195624614

The Atlantic Council holds a webinar, beginning at 12 p.m., on "Evaluating Iraq's New White Paper on Economic Reform."

12:00 PM EDT on 10/30/2020

press@atlanticcouncil.org

202-778-4993

Travis Horne; Webinar information is available

at <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/event/evaluating-iraqs-new-white-paper-on-economic-reform/>

Participants:

- Ahmed Tabaqchali, Chief information officer at Asia Frontier Capital
- Abbas Kadhim, Director of the Atlantic Council's Iraq Initiative
- Asmaa Yaseen, Economics modeling and forecasting analyst at the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
- Alia Moubayed, Managing director of fixed income strategy at Jeffries International
- Harry Istepanian, Senior fellow at the Iraq Energy Institute

The Hudson Institute holds a webinar, beginning at 12 p.m., on "Rising to the Challenge: Regaining U.S. Military Superiority During a Time of Uncertainty."

12:00 PM EDT on 10/30/2020

cstewart@hudson.org

202-974-6456

Carolyn Stewart; Webinar information is available

at <https://www.hudson.org/events/1884-video-event-rising-to-the-challenge-regaining-us-military-superiority-during-a-time-of-uncertainty102020>

Participants:

- Bryan Clark, Director of the Hudson Center for Defense Concepts and Technology
- Dan Patt, Adjunct fellow in the Hudson Center for Defense Concepts and Technology
- [Rep. Seth Moulton](#)
- [Rep. Jim Banks](#)

Experts on emerging military technologies, tank warfare and electronic warfare will discuss questions for the future of warfare exposed by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Speakers include Sam Bendett, research analyst, Center for Naval Analyses' International Affairs Group and Ulrike Franke, policy fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations. RSVP [here](#).

1:00 PM EDT on 10/30/2020

The Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies holds a webinar, beginning at 2 p.m., on "Adaptation Under Fire: How Militaries Change in Wartime."

2:00 PM EDT on 10/30/2020

sande100@jhu.edu

202-663-5620

Stacy Anderson; Webinar information is available at <https://sais.jhu.edu/campus-events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D472672890>

Participants:

- Co-author David Barno, Retired Army lieutenant general and former commander of U.S. and Coalition Forces in Afghanistan
- co-author Nora Bensahel, Senior fellow at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies' Merrill Center

The Air Force Association holds a virtual discussion, beginning at 5:30 p.m., with Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Stephen "Seve" Wilson, part of the "Airmen in the Fight" series.

5:30 PM EDT on 10/30/2020

703-247-5839

Peter Huessy; RSVP to Phuessy@afa.org at least 48 hours before the start of the event.

Webinar information is available

at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BeLr4YgiRsulYEmHaVrPmQ

Defense Department; office of the Secretary holds a meeting by teleconference of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense, through the USD, on academic and administrative matters critical to the full accreditation and successful operation of USU.

8:00 AM EST on 11/02/2020

annette.askins-roberts@usuhs.edu

301-295-3066

Annette Askins-Roberts; RSVP required for dial-in information to

usu_external_affairs@usuhs.edu

The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs holds a webinar, beginning at 12 p.m., with Iraqi Ambassador to the United States Fareed Yasseen on U.S.-Iraqi relations and current events in the region.

12:00 PM EST on 11/02/2020

jshevrin@gwu.edu

202-994-5631

Jason Shevrin, or gwmedia@gwu.edu; Webinar information is available

at <https://calendar.gwu.edu/conversation-iraqi-ambassador>

The Brookings Institution holds a webcast, beginning at 4 p.m., on "How Will the 2020 Presidential Election Shape U.S. Policy in the Middle East?"

4:00 PM EST on 11/02/2020

events@brookings.edu

202-797-6105

Information on the webcast is available at <https://www.brookings.edu/events/how-will->

[the-2020-presidential-election-shape-u-s-policy-in-the-middle-east/](#)

Participants:

- Tamara Cofman Wittes, Senior fellow in the Brookings Center for Middle East Policy
- Adel Abdel Ghafar, Fellow in the Brookings Doha Center
- Michael Robbins, Project director at the Arab Barometer
- Maha Yahya, Director of Malcolm H. Kerr Carnegie Middle East
- Samer Shehata, Professor of Middle East studies at the University of Oklahoma

The Woodrow Wilson Center's Hyundai Motor-Korea Foundation Center for Korean History and Public Policy holds a webcast, beginning at 8 a.m., on "The Korean Peninsula After the U.S. Election."

8:00 AM EST on 11/05/2020

ryan.mckenna@wilsoncenter.org

202-691-4217

Ryan McKenna; Information on the webcast is available

at <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/korean-peninsula-after-us-election>

Participants:

- Jean Lee, Director of the Hyundai Motor-Korean Foundation Center for Korean History and Public Policy
- Former State Department Special Representative for North Korea Policy Joseph Yun, Senior adviser at the U.S. Institute of Peace Asia Program
- Kim Jiyeon, Political analyst and host of TBS FM's "Evening Show"
- Kim Joon-hyung, Chancellor of the Korea National Diplomatic Academy

The German Marshall Fund of the United States holds a webinar, beginning at 9 a.m., on a new Institute for the Study of War report titled "Putin's Offset: The Kremlin's Geopolitical Adaptations Since 2014."

9:00 AM EST on 11/05/2020

jalexander@gmfus.org

202-683-2608

John Alexander; Webinar information is available

at <https://www.gmfus.org/events/putin%E2%80%99s-offset-kremlin%E2%80%99s-geopolitical-adaptations-2014>

Participants:

- Oksana Syroid, Co-chair of the Lviv Security Forum
- Teija Tiilikainen, Director of the European Center of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats
- Nataliya Bugayova, Nonresident national security fellow at the Institute for the Study of War and director of intelligence at Tecsonomy
- Ben Hodges, Chair in strategic studies at the Center for European Policy Analysis
- Kimberly Kagan, President of the Institute for the Study of War

Defense Department; Office of the Secretary holds a meeting by teleconference of the Defense Health Board.

Agenda includes: Receive decision briefings on the Active Duty Women's Health Care Services and on the Modernization of the TRICARE Benefit; and Briefings on direct-to-consumer genetic testing

11:00 AM EST on 11/05/2020

gregory.h.gorman.mil@mail.mil

703-275-6060

Gregory Gorman; Registration required by October 29 to dha.ncr.dhb.mbx.defense-health-board@mail.mil

The Space Foundation holds its virtual Space Symposium 365, beginning at 11 a.m., scheduled to run from October 28 through December 15.

Schedule:

– 11 a.m.: Army Gen. James Dickinson, commander of the U.S. Space Command, participates in a discussion

11:00 AM EST on 11/05/2020

719-576-8000

Information on the webcast is available at <https://spacesymposium365.org/>

Homeland Security Department; Coast Guard holds a meeting by teleconference of the National Boating Safety Advisory Council to discuss matters relating to recreational boating safety.

12:00 PM EST on 11/05/2020

NBSAC@uscg.mil

202-372-1507

Jeff Decker; RSVP required by 1 p.m. October 22 for dial-in information.

Homeland Security Department; Transportation Security Administration holds a meeting by teleconference of the Surface Transportation Security Advisory Committee.

Agenda includes: Committee and Subcommittee briefings on activities, key issues, and focus areas for FY2020 - Cybersecurity Information Sharing; Emergency Management and Resiliency; Insider Threat; and Security Risk and Intelligence; Public Comments; Closing Comments

1:00 PM EST on 11/05/2020

STSAC@tsa.dhs.gov

571-227-2283

Judith Harroun-Lord; RSVP required by October 26 to STSAC@tsa.dhs.gov for dial-in information.

Have a great weekend!

The *Executive Insight Brief* is a compilation of articles of interest prepared by The Roosevelt Group research team. This information is provided for situational awareness. Items are chosen to highlight trends and issues in the news and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of The Roosevelt Group.



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