

WASHINGTON ICBM CONTRACTORS (ICons) GROUP



29 August 2020

Sep ICons:

Location: Virtual

Date: 9 Sep

Time: 10:30 EDT

Guest: TBA

ADMINISTRATION/PROGRAM SPECIFICS

Nuclear agency's new facility to be named after 1st leader

Associated Press, Aug. 22 | Not Attributed

NNSA Administrator visits Pantex Plant as part of Nuclear Security Enterprise tour

Gordon-Hagerty was Joined by U.S. Rep. Thornberry to Survey and Celebrate the Continuing Efforts of the Pantex Workforce
National Nuclear Security Administration, Aug. 24 | Press Release

Administration sends mixed signals on nuclear weapons budgeting

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2020/08/25/trump-administration-sends-mixed-signals-on-nuclear-weapons-budgeting/> By: Joe Gould and Aaron Mehta for Defense News

U.S. defense chief vowing not to “cede an inch” in the Pacific to China

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-defence-china/u-s-wont-cede-an-inch-in-pacific-esper-says-in-swipe-at-china-idUSKBN25N0D6?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.27.20&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief

By: Ben Blanchard for Reuters News Wire // AUGUST 27, 2020 / 12:12 AM / UPDATED 3 HOURS AGO

Esper Warns of China's 'Self-Serving' Behavior During Pacific Trip

Air Force Magazine Online, Aug. 27 | Brian W. Everstine

Trump Admin Confronts U.N. Over Iran Sanctions Impasse

https://freebeacon.com/national-security/trump-admin-confronts-u-n-over-iran-sanctions-impasse/?utm_source=actengage&utm_campaign=FreedomMail&utm_medium=email

U.S. says Europe 'standing in the company of terrorists'

By: Adam Kredo for the WFB // August 25, 2020 6:15 PM

Administration Seeks Win on Nuclear Arms Deal with Russia

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/trump-administration-seeks-pre-election-213650061.html?ocid=uxbndlbing>

By: John Walcott for Yahoo News - Time // •August 25, 2020

On nuclear weapons, Vladimir Putin will prefer Biden to Trump

Washington Examiner Online, Aug. 24 | Tom Rogan

The Pentagon Is Prepared for China

Wall Street Journal, Aug. 25, Pg. A17 | Defense Secretary Mark Esper

News & Opinion

New missile work to begin at Malmstrom in 2026, Air Force says

Great Falls Tribune Online (Montana), Aug. 21 | Phil Drake

Work on Kings Bay expansion continues

Brunswick News Online (Georgia), Aug. 22 | Gordon Jackson

Why the U.S. Military Needs Both 'Tactical' Nuclear Weapons and ICBMs

National Interest Online, Aug. 21 | Kris Osborn

Nuclear deterrence needed to prevent cyberattacks from paralyzing China's nuclear response

By Qin An Source: Global Times Published: 2020/8/24 14:42:17

US nuclear weapons budget could skyrocket if Russia treaty ends

https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2020/08/25/cbo-us-nuclear-weapons-budget-could-skyrocket-if-russia-treaty-ends/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.26.20&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief
By: Joe Gould for Defense News

Radiation detections in northern Europe: what we do and don't know

Radiation detections in northern Europe: what we do and don't know
By Cheryl Rofer, for the UCS // August 21, 2020

Once a near-nuclear power, Taipei has since been an exemplary anti-proliferator — in cold contrast to Beijing

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/08/add-taiwan-international-atomic-energy-agency/167927/>
By: Andrea Stricker for Defense One // August 24, 2020

Report: China Has Second-Largest Fleet of Satellites

https://freebeacon.com/national-security/report-china-has-second-largest-fleet-of-satellites/?utm_source=actengage&utm_campaign=FreedomMail&utm_medium=email
By: Jack Beyrer for the WFB // August 24, 2020 3:40 PM

Arms Control Addiction

<https://www.newsmax.com/peterpry/armscontrol/2020/08/25/id/983778/>
By Dr. Peter Vincent Pry for Newsmax // Tuesday, 25 August 2020

Missiles are advancing so quickly that their names need to change, report finds

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/missiles-are-advancing-so-quickly-that-their-names-need-to-change-report-finds/ar-BB18qT28?ocid=msedgdhp>
By: Paul Sonne for the WaPo // 8 hrs ago

Air Force fast-tracks new ICBM to avoid 'missile gap'

The existing GBSD program is being engineered to bring new levels of reliability
Fox News, 24 Aug 20
Kris Osborn

Air Force and Navy air-launch ICBM

<https://www.foxnews.com/tech/air-force-and-navy-air-launch-icbm>
The Air Force's GBSD is testing prototypes and making rapid developmental progress with a new class of ICBM
By Kris Osborn | Warrior Maven for Fox News // 25 Aug 2020

Missile Replacement: It's A Go

Air Force Announces That Work Will Begin In 2023 At Warren AFB
Western Nebraska Observer Online (Kimball, NE), 27 Aug 20

Daria Anderson Faden

Why is the U.S. Military Building So Many New Weapons? (Like Smaller Nukes)

It is all about matching and deterring Russia and China

National Interest Online, 27 Aug 20

Kris Osborn

Unwitting investors in China

Washington Post, Aug. 28, Pg. A27 | Josh Rogin

CONGRESSIONAL *By Susan Cornwell*

The Senate is in recess until September 8
The House is in recess until mid September

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

SASC and HASC have passed their respective Bills
ALL ICBM PEs at PB

AUTHORIZATION CONFERENCE

November: Tentative timeframe for markup

SASC HEARING

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 (09:30 AM-Room SD-G50, Dirksen Senate Office Building)

SASC SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT hearing to receive testimony on supply chain integrity.

Witnesses: Honorable Ellen M. Lord Under Secretary Of Defense For Acquisition And Sustainment

For this hearing, the Senate Armed Services Committee will follow guidelines developed in consultation with the Office of the Attending Physician (OAP), the Senate Sergeant at Arms, and the Senate Rules Committee to protect the health of Members, witnesses, staff, and the public. This includes maintaining six-foot social distance spacing in the hearing room.

Pursuant to this guidance from the CDC and OAP, Senate office buildings are not open to the public other than official business visitors and credentialed press at this time. Accordingly, in-person visitors cannot be accommodated at this hearing.

We encourage the public to utilize the Committee's livestream of the hearing, which will be available on this page.

Questions about the feed or general questions about media attendance can be directed to: SASC_Press@armed-services.senate.gov

HASC PRESS RELEASE ON START TREATY

Smith and Menendez Statement on the Immense Costs of Allowing the New START Treaty to Expire
August 26, 2020

DEFENSE APPROPRIATION

HAC

SAC

AROUND THE WORLD



RUSSIA:

Russia's Lavrov Calls Washington's Conditions for Preserving New START Treaty Unrealistic

Sputnik News, Aug. 23 | Not Attributed

Tests of increased-range BrahMos cruise missiles set for 2020

<https://tass.com/defense/1193189>

Earlier this summer, BrahMos's air-based modification, BrahMos-A, was successfully certified in India, the Tactical Missiles Corporation JSC CEO recalled
From Russia News Agency, TASS // 24 AUG, 10:41

US Backs Down From Proposal to Add China to New START Talks, Set Other Conditions – Ryabkov

Sputnik News (Russia), Aug. 22 | Not Attributed

Russia achieves certain success in helping China set up its missile attack warning system

TASS (Russia), Aug. 24 | Not Attributed

MOSCOW -- The United States is not opposed to extending the New START Treaty, but that will be possible only if framework agreements on strategic stability are drawn up, U.S. Ambassador in Moscow John Sullivan said.

Putin: Russia is ready to provide security help to Belarus

Associated Press, Aug. 27 | Yuras Karmanau and Vladimir Isachenkov



CHINA:

China test-fires 'carrier killer' missile in disputed sea

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2020/08/27/report-china-fires-carrier-killer-missile-in-disputed-sea/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Air%20Force%20DNR%208.27.20&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Air%20Force%20-%20Daily%20News%20Roundup

From The Associated Press // 16 hours ago

Reported missile launch ‘shows saturated attack capability’

Global Times (China), Aug. 28, Pg. 4 | Liu Xuanzun

US ‘walking on thin ice’ with spy plane flight

China Daily (China), Aug. 27, Pg. 3 | Zhang Zhihao and Wang Qingyun

Chinese military: Rocket Force drills prepare for possible US nuclear weapons attack

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3098727/chinese-military-rocket-force-drills-prepare-possible-us>

Anti-CBRN exercises are a major training focus, simulating defence against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear warfare

Rocket Force’s largest anti-nuclear weapon drill involved thousands of soldiers and hundreds of military vehicles in the Gobi Desert

By: Minnie Chan for The South China Morning Post // Published: 6:00pm, 25 Aug, 2020 -- Updated: 11:15pm, 25 Aug, 2020

China's Communist Party is a threat to the world, says former elite insider

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/22/asia/chinas-communist-party-threat-world-intl-hnk/index.html>

By CNN Staff // Updated 8:07 PM ET, Sat August 22, 2020



NORTH KOREA:

Unexpected Mystery Submarine In North Korea

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/hisutton/2020/08/25/unexpected-mystery-submarine-in-north-korea/?ocid=uxbndlbing#771038b36a38>

From: Forbes · by H I Sutton · // August 26, 2020

NK leader's sister in control of key Workers' Party unit, Seoul's defense chief says

<https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20200825008751315>

By: en.yna.co.kr · by 이치동 · | Yonhap News Agency // August 25, 2020



SOUTH KOREA:

South Korea: The Next Nuclear Weapons State?

Unsurprisingly, there is a renewed call among parts of South Korea's security establishment to revisit the prospect of acquiring a nuclear deterrent. National Interest Online, Aug. 26 | Mark Episkopos

Esper renews 'complete, verifiable, irreversible' North Korea denuke goal, but stresses diplomacy

Yonhap News Agency (South Korea), 27 Oct 20
Song Sang-ho



IRAN:

IAEA chief in Tehran, seeks access to Iranian nuclear sites

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-iaea/iaea-chief-in-tehran-seeks-access-to-iranian-nuclear-sites-idUSKBN25K2AY>
From Reuters News Wire World News // August 24, 2020 / 3:21 PM

Iran Confirms 'Act of Sabotage' at Nuclear Site

https://freebeacon.com/national-security/iran-confirms-act-of-sabotage-at-nuclear-site/?utm_source=actengage&utm_campaign=FreedomMail&utm_medium=email
Adam Kredo - August 24, 2020 3:02 PM



INDIA:

Tests of increased-range BrahMos cruise missiles set for 2020

<https://tass.com/defense/1193189>

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From Russia News Agency, TASS // 24 AUG, 10:41



PAKISTAN:

NSTR



UNITED KINGDOM:

NSTR



FRANCE:

NSTR



ISRAEL:

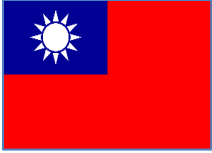
NSTR



JAPAN:

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe resigns, citing health reasons

Washington Post Online, Aug. 28 | Simon Denyer and David Crawshaw



TAWIAN:

Taiwan's Tsai emphasizes defense amid growing China threat

Associated Press, Aug. 28 | Not Attributed



SAUDI ARABIA:

NSTR



TURKEY:

NSTR



POLAND:

NSTR