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**From:** Outreach <Outreach@darpa.mil>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 18, 2014 11:18 AM  
**To:** Outreach;

**Cc:** (b)(4),(b)(6)

**Subject:** Public Affairs Morning Report Wednesday, September 18

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good morning,  
Please find today's daily news update below. This message is best viewed as HTML.  
Best,  
DARPA Public Affairs

**DARPA News**

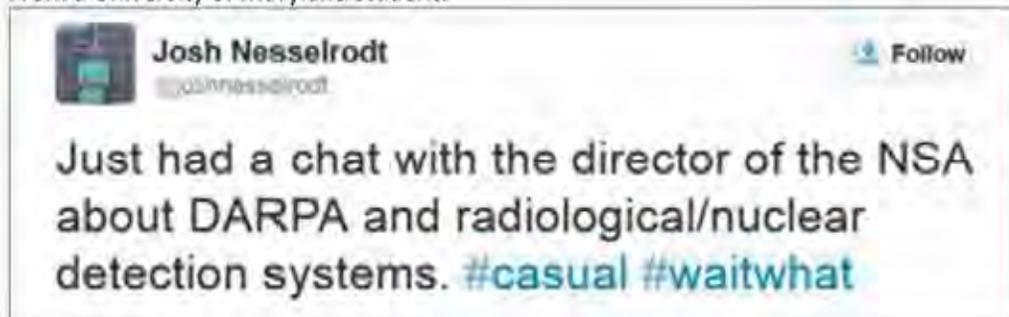
[UCSB scientists create silicon-based laser for DARPA](#) (*Compound Semiconductor*) Team overcomes lattice mismatch to integrate light-emitting quantum dots on silicon. DARPA's Electronic-Photonic Heterogeneous Integration (E-PHI) program has successfully integrated billions of light-emitting quantum dots on silicon to create a silicon-based laser.

[Scientists Twist Radio Beams to Send Data, Reach Speeds of 32 Gbit/s](#) (*Scientific Computing*) Building on previous research that twisted light to send data at unheard-of speeds, scientists at University of Southern California (USC) have developed a similar technique with radiowaves, reaching high speeds without some of the hassles that can go with optical systems.

[Tiny Implants Could Give Humans Self-Healing Superpowers](#) (*Live Science*) Wolverine, Ghost Rider, the Incredible Hulk — all of these characters have at least one awesome trait in common: the ability to heal themselves. And now, the Pentagon wants to give ordinary people this superhuman capability.

**Tweets of Interest**

From a University of Maryland student:



**Josh Nesselrodt** @joshnesselrodt Follow

Just had a chat with the director of the NSA about DARPA and radiological/nuclear detection systems. #casual #waitwhat



**Kevin Baron**   
@DefensaBaron



Following

Why Do We Need 'Hypersonic' Strike Weapons, Exactly? | @DefenseOne  
[defenseone.com/ideas/2014/09/](https://defenseone.com/ideas/2014/09/) ...

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**D** Defense One



**Why Do We Need 'Hypersonic' Strike Weapons, Exactly?**

The Pentagon has a bit more explaining to do before the U.S. keeps developing its latest super-fast toy. By James M. Acton



## Defense News

**Hagel: China, Russia Nipping at Heels of U.S. Air Power Dominance** (*National Defense*) The Air Force's continued budgetary constraints are limiting its ability to maintain dominance over competitors such as China and Russia, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Frank Kendall said Sept. 17. "Today, the predominance that our military has enjoyed for decades confronts powerful enemies," Kendall said at the Air Force Association's annual conference at National Harbor, Maryland. Kendall was pinch-hitting for Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, who could not make it to the keynote address. Rather than deliver his own speech, Kendall read from Hagel's prepared remarks.

**Boeing-Lockheed venture picks Bezos engine for future rockets** (*Reuters*) United Launch Alliance (ULA), a Boeing Co and Lockheed Martin Corp joint venture, said on Wednesday it would invest heavily in a new rocket engine being developed by Amazon.com Inc founder Jeff Bezos and his company Blue Origin.

**Why Do We Need 'Hypersonic' Strike Weapons, Exactly?** (*Defense One, Op-Ed*) It's hard to dispute the notion that before spending billions of dollars on a new weapon, the Pentagon ought to be able to explain what it's for. So it's surprising how often this rule isn't followed.

## Today in DoD

Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work has no public or media events on his schedule.  
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey is traveling.

Defense Information Systems Agency Chief Technology Officer, David Mihelcic; DISA Director of Network Services, Cindy Moran; and DISA Mission Assurance Executive, Mark Orndorff participate in a panel discussion about the Defense Information Systems Agency at 8:30 a.m. EDT at the Microsoft Offices in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel testifies before the House Armed Services Committee on U.S. policy towards Iraq and Syria and the threat posed by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) at 11:15 a.m. EDT in the Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2118, Washington, District of Columbia.

U.S. Strategic Command Commander, Adm. Cecil D. Haney provides remarks on the Importance of the Nuclear Triad at 12:55 p.m. EDT at the Army and Navy Club in Washington, District of Columbia.

Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and Director, National Security Agency, Adm. Michael S. Rogers; National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Director, Letitia Long; Defense Intelligence Agency Acting Director, David Shedd participate in the "What Should the National Expect from its Intelligence Community" panel at the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association/Intelligence and National Security Summit at 1 p.m. EDT at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, District of Columbia.

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**From:** (b)(4)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:53 AM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** From Strategic Affairs Magazine, India  
**Attachments:** Improved mobility.pdf  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Sir/Madam,

Kindly find the attached a brief write up on your product/technology carried in the latest issue of Strategic Affairs magazine.

Thank you,

Best regards

(b)(6)

New GXV-T program from DARPA

# Improved mobility



The goal of the new technology is to improve protection of the armored platforms

For the past 100 years of mechanized warfare, protection for ground-based armored fighting vehicles and their occupants has boiled down almost exclusively to a simple equation: More armor equals more protection. Weapons' ability to penetrate armor, however, has advanced faster than armor's ability to withstand penetration. As a result, achieving even incremental improvements in crew survivability has required significant increases in vehicle mass and cost.

The trend of increasingly heavy, less mobile and more expensive combat platforms has limited Soldiers' ability to rapidly deploy and maneuver in theater and accomplish their missions in varied and evolving threat environments. Moreover, larger vehicles are limited to roads, require more logistical support and are more expensive to design, develop, field and replace. The US military is now at a point where considering tactical mobility, strategic mobility, survivability and cost-innovative and disruptive solutions are necessary to ensure the operational viability of the next generation of armored fighting vehicles.

DARPA has created the Ground X-Vehicle Technology (GXV-

T) program to help overcome these challenges and disrupt the current trends in mechanized warfare. GXV-T seeks to investigate revolutionary ground-vehicle technologies that would simultaneously improve the mobility and survivability of vehicles through means other than adding more armor, including avoiding detection, engagement and hits by adversaries. This improved mobility and warfighting capability would enable future US ground forces to more efficiently and cost-effectively tackle varied and unpredictable combat situations.

GXV-T's goal is not just to improve or replace one particular vehicle—it's about breaking the 'more armor' paradigm and revolutionizing protection for all armored fighting vehicles.

## GXV-T's technical goals:

- Reduce vehicle size and weight by 50 percent
- Reduce onboard crew needed to operate vehicle by 50 percent
- Increase vehicle speed by 100 percent
- Access 95 percent of terrain
- Reduce signatures that enable adversaries to detect and engage vehicles

Inspired by how X-plane programs have improved aircraft capabilities over the past 60 years, DARPA plans to pursue groundbreaking fundamental research and development to help make future armored fighting vehicles significantly more mobile, effective, safe and affordable.

The GXV-T program provides the following four technical areas as examples where advanced technologies could be developed that would meet the program's objectives:

**Radically Enhanced Mobility:** Ability to traverse diverse off-road terrain, including slopes and various elevations; advanced suspensions and novel track/wheel configurations; extreme speed; rapid omni-directional movement changes in three dimensions.

**Survivability through Agility:** Autonomously avoid incoming threats without harming occupants through technologies such as agile motion (dodging) and active repositioning of armor.

**Crew Augmentation:** Improved physical and electronically assisted situational awareness for crew and passengers; semi-autonomous driver assistance and automation of key crew functions similar to capabilities found in modern commercial airplane cockpits.

**Signature Management:** Reduction of detectable signatures, including visible, infrared (IR), acoustic and electromagnetic (EM).

Technology development beyond these four examples is desired so long as it supports the program's goals. DARPA is particularly interested in engaging non-traditional contributors to help develop leap-ahead technologies in the focus areas above, as well as other technologies that could potentially improve both the survivability and mobility of future armored fighting vehicles.

DARPA aims to develop GXV-T technologies over 24 months after initial contract awards, which are currently planned on or before April 2015. The GXV-T program plans to pursue research, development, design and testing and evaluation of major subsystem capabilities in multiple technology areas with the goal of integrating these capabilities into future ground X-vehicle demonstrators. ■

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 1:40 AM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** Special Operations Candidate

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I am wondering if you have any research into human height advancement. If you wanna talk, call this number.

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 5:30 AM  
**To:**

[Redacted]

Outreach:

(b)(6)

**Subject:** FW: Morning News of Note 17 Sept 2014  
**Attachments:** Morning News of Note 17 Sept 2014.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis  
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 5:29:40 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
Subject: Morning News of Note 17 Sept 2014

(See attachment for text - for best results on a BlackBerry click "view")

KEY THEMES IN COVERAGE

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- . Australia promises \$6.4 million to fight Ebola
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- . China's Xi visits India to forge ties with Modi
- . Experts say mystery fireball over Rockies was Russian spy satellite
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- . RIA Novosti: Russia's 'stealth' sub joins Black Sea Fleet
- . Xinhua: U.S. finalizing strike plans against ISIL - Hagel

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## INTELLIGENCE

### 22. U.S. NSA chief says monitoring tech-savvy Islamic State

Reuters, Sept. 16 | Doina Chiacu

As U.S. military leaders outlined their strategy before Congress to fight Islamic State militants on the battlefield, the National Security Agency chief said on Tuesday he was watching the media-savvy group's cyber capabilities.

## SEXUAL ASSAULT

### 23. IG: Sexual assault investigators should improve methods

MilitaryTimes.com, Sept. 16 | Andrew Tilghman Military investigators responding to reports of sexual assaults do not always follow the widely accepted standards set by civilian police agencies, according to a new Pentagon Inspector General's report.

## NOTABLE COMMENTARY

### 24. The Slippery Slope Begins

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A26 | Editorial A week ago, President Obama stood before the American people and promised that the expanding fight against the Islamic State -- a vicious Sunni militant group known as ISIS or ISIL that is terrorizing parts of Iraq and Syria -- would not mean a commitment of American ground troops. "As I have said before, these American forces will not have a combat mission," he said.

#### 25. The Syria Campaign

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A14 | Editorial American bombs aren't yet falling on Syria, but on Tuesday Chuck Hagel suggested they soon will. "This plan includes targeted actions against ISIL safe havens in Syria, including its command and control, logistics capabilities and infrastructure," the Secretary of Defense told the Senate. Martin Dempsey, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, added that the attacks "will be persistent and sustainable."

#### 26. Syria's choking war

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A16 | Editorial The killing winds came over the trenches at Ypres, Belgium, in the evening of April 22, 1915, carrying chlorine gas, greenish clouds that unleashed warfare with chemical weapons. It inspired fear and terror, and eventually led to international treaties to prohibit the use and manufacture of chemical weapons for war, including the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and the Chemical Weapons Convention of 1993.

#### 27. The power to make war

Los Angeles Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A10 | Editorial In announcing last week that he would seek to "degrade, and ultimately destroy" Islamic State, President Obama asserted that, while he welcomed congressional support, he already possessed the legal authority to use military force against the group in Iraq, Syria and elsewhere. That's a dangerous assertion of authority in which Congress must not acquiesce.

#### 28. Secret steps into combat

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A17 | David Ignatius Here's a national-security riddle: How can President Obama provide limited military support on the ground to help "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State without formally violating his pledge not to send U.S. combat troops? The answer may lie in the legal alchemy known as "Title 50."

#### 29. An Urgent Campaign Against Ebola

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A26 | Editorial President Obama's announcement of a more aggressive campaign against the Ebola outbreak in West Africa on Tuesday shows the administration is starting to recognize the severity of the crisis in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The question now is whether ramped-up medical assistance from the United States and other countries will arrive fast enough to change the course of the rapidly expanding epidemic.

#### 30. Combating Ebola

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A16 | Editorial With people dying in the streets of the Liberian capital, President Obama has at last ramped up the U.S. response to the worst outbreak ever of the Ebola virus in West Africa. The fresh surge of support announced Tuesday represents a welcome change of course. No one knows if the package outlined by Mr. Obama at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be sufficient, but at least the United States has started to act like the world's indispensable nation.

(See attachment for text - for best results on a BlackBerry click "view")



1800 HOURS, SEPTEMBER 16 THROUGH 0530 HOURS, SEPTEMBER 17

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More than 2,000 people, including top Navy officials and families still in mourning, gathered early Tuesday at the Washington Navy Yard to mark the first anniversary of the shooting rampage that killed 12 people inside Building 197.

## **INTELLIGENCE**

### **22. U.S. NSA chief says monitoring tech-savvy Islamic State**

*Reuters, Sept. 16 | Doina Chiacu*

As U.S. military leaders outlined their strategy before Congress to fight Islamic State militants on the battlefield, the National Security Agency chief said on Tuesday he was watching the media-savvy group's cyber capabilities.

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT**

### **23. IG: Sexual assault investigators should improve methods**

*MilitaryTimes.com, Sept. 16 | Andrew Tilghman*

Military investigators responding to reports of sexual assaults do not always follow the widely accepted standards set by civilian police agencies, according to a new Pentagon Inspector General's report.

## **NOTABLE COMMENTARY**

### **24. The Slippery Slope Begins**

*New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A26 | Editorial*

A week ago, President Obama stood before the American people and promised that the expanding fight against the Islamic State -- a vicious Sunni militant group known as ISIS or ISIL that is terrorizing parts of Iraq and Syria -- would not mean a commitment of American ground troops. "As I have said before, these American forces will not have a combat mission," he said.

### **25. The Syria Campaign**

*Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A14 | Editorial*

American bombs aren't yet falling on Syria, but on Tuesday Chuck Hagel suggested they soon will. "This plan includes targeted actions against ISIL safe havens in Syria, including its command and control, logistics capabilities and infrastructure," the Secretary of Defense told the Senate. Martin Dempsey, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, added that the attacks "will be persistent and sustainable."

### **26. Syria's choking war**

*Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A16 | Editorial*

The killing winds came over the trenches at Ypres, Belgium, in the evening of April 22, 1915, carrying chlorine gas, greenish clouds that unleashed warfare with chemical weapons. It inspired fear and terror, and eventually led to international treaties to prohibit the use and manufacture of chemical weapons for war, including the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and the Chemical Weapons Convention of 1993.

### **27. The power to make war**

*Los Angeles Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A10 | Editorial*

In announcing last week that he would seek to "degrade, and ultimately destroy" Islamic State, President Obama asserted that, while he welcomed congressional support, he already possessed the legal authority to use military force against the group in Iraq, Syria and elsewhere. That's a dangerous assertion of authority in which Congress must not acquiesce.

### **28. Secret steps into combat**

*Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A17 | David Ignatius*

Here's a national-security riddle: How can President Obama provide limited military support on the ground to help "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State without formally violating his pledge not to send U.S. combat troops? The answer may lie in the legal alchemy known as "Title 50."

### 29. An Urgent Campaign Against Ebola

*New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A26 | Editorial*

President Obama's announcement of a more aggressive campaign against the Ebola outbreak in West Africa on Tuesday shows the administration is starting to recognize the severity of the crisis in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The question now is whether ramped-up medical assistance from the United States and other countries will arrive fast enough to change the course of the rapidly expanding epidemic.

### 30. Combating Ebola

*Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A16 | Editorial*

With people dying in the streets of the Liberian capital, President Obama has at last ramped up the U.S. response to the worst outbreak ever of the Ebola virus in West Africa. The fresh surge of support announced Tuesday represents a welcome change of course. No one knows if the package outlined by Mr. Obama at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be sufficient, but at least the United States has started to act like the world's indispensable nation.

## **IRAQ/SYRIA**

### **1. U.S. General Open to Ground Force As Option In Iraq**

*To take on extremists; Joint Chiefs chairman raises a possibility Obama rejects*

*New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A1 | Mark Landler, Helene Cooper and Eric P. Schmitt*

WASHINGTON -- President Obama's top military adviser said Tuesday that he would recommend deploying United States forces in ground operations against Islamic extremists in Iraq if airstrikes proved insufficient, opening the door to a riskier, more expansive American combat role than the president has publicly outlined.

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the Senate Armed Services Committee that while he was confident that an American-led coalition would defeat the Islamic State, he would not foreclose the possibility of asking Mr. Obama to send American troops to fight the militants on the ground -- something Mr. Obama has ruled out.

"My view at this point is that this coalition is the appropriate way forward. I believe that will prove true," General Dempsey said. "But if it fails to be true, and if there are threats to the United States, then I, of course, would go back to the president and make a recommendation that may include the use of U.S. military ground forces."

General Dempsey acknowledged that this would run counter to the president's policy, but he said, "He has told me as well to come back to him on a case-by-case basis."

The general's statement lays bare the challenge the president will face in selling an expanded military campaign to a war-weary American public. Mr. Obama, seeking to allay fears of another Iraq war, has promised that American

ground troops will not be involved in fighting the Islamic State, also known as ISIS or ISIL. In a sign of the administration's mixed message, the president pointedly did not call it a war, while his advisers later did.

But the realities of a prolonged campaign, General Dempsey said, could make such a hands-off approach untenable, particularly if the battle against the militants moves into densely populated cities where airstrikes are less effective and the chances of civilian casualties are much higher. His candid testimony, hours before a divided House of Representatives began debating whether to approve Mr. Obama's request for authority to arm the Syrian rebels, drew expressions of concern from antiwar groups and could further complicate the political dynamic for the president.

The White House insisted on Tuesday that Mr. Obama was not shifting his policy and that General Dempsey was not out of sync with his commander in chief.

"It's the responsibility of the president's military advisers to plan and consider all the wide range of contingencies," the White House press secretary, Josh Earnest, said to reporters. "It's also the responsibility of the commander in chief to set out a clear policy."

On Wednesday, Mr. Obama is scheduled to get a briefing from his military commanders at the Pentagon's Central Command headquarters in Tampa, Fla. The rare visit is described by White House officials as part of his effort to mobilize public support for the mission. But it is also calculated to soothe tensions with the military over who is in charge of the operation after Mr. Obama named retired Gen. John R. Allen to be his special envoy to the coalition of countries fighting the Islamic State. General Allen will be based at the State Department.

Already, Mr. Obama's policy has been tested by his commanders. General Dempsey said Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, who oversees the Central Command, had recommended putting Special Operations troops on the ground to direct airstrikes during a recent campaign by Iraqi and Kurdish forces to retake the Mosul Dam from the extremist militants.

Mr. Obama rejected that recommendation, and General Dempsey said the United States used technology -- a drone known as a Rover -- to compensate for not having its own advisers on the ground. The American advisers remained in the Kurdish capital, Erbil.

The challenge will come, General Dempsey said, when Iraqi and Kurdish forces try to drive the militants out of densely populated urban areas like Mosul. In those cases, General Dempsey said, he might recommend deploying Special Operations troops to provide what he called "close combat advising," essentially working alongside Iraqi commanders in the field and helping them direct their troops to targets.

While the Americans would not fire weapons themselves, military experts said there was little practical distinction between the role General Dempsey described at the hearing and actual combat.

"We've already got ground forces introduced, and they are performing combat missions," Paul D. Eaton, a retired Army general who helped train the Iraqi security forces and is now a senior adviser to the National Security Network, said on Tuesday. "I applaud the general for his candor. That will help the president and the debate greatly."

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel testified along with General Dempsey, but their appearance appeared to do little to dispel concerns on Capitol Hill. They said the campaign would include the training and equipping of 5,000 Syrian fighters and the involvement of more than 40 coalition nations, including 30 that have pledged military support.

Members of the committee sounded far from convinced that the plan would succeed. Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, said he doubted that 5,000 Syrian fighters, who could not be trained for months, would be able to fight off more than 30,000 Islamic State combatants. "To many of us that seems like an inadequate response," he said.

Senator Angus King of Maine, an independent who votes with Democrats, said he was concerned about what appeared to be a "whack-a-mole" approach to the terrorism threat.

With a vote by the House on authorizing funding for training and arming the Syrian opposition possible on Wednesday afternoon, Republican leaders were carefully gauging support, a sign that the vote could be closer than they would like. Lawmakers on the left and the right threatened to vote against the authorization, for different reasons.

Many Republicans refuse to support a plan they say is too circumscribed and halfhearted. Reluctant Democrats argue it is imprudent to arm a group of rebels who have no clear allegiances to the United States.

"It's clearly not enough," said Representative Tom Rooney, a Florida Republican who sits on the Intelligence Committee. "If ISIS is truly a national security threat that needs to be destroyed, then we need to destroy them. And anybody you talk to who knows what they're talking about believes that arming the rebels is insufficient."

Mr. Hagel and General Dempsey stressed that this campaign would be nothing like the 2003 invasion of Iraq. "This won't look like a 'shock-and-awe campaign' because that's not how ISIL is organized," General Dempsey said.

It is the administration's eagerness to distinguish the campaign from the Iraq war that has led it into semantic knots. After administration officials first denied it was a war, Mr. Earnest said the United States was at war "in the same way we are at war with Al Qaeda and its affiliates."

That put Secretary of State John Kerry, who was in the Middle East lining up coalition partners for the campaign, in an awkward position. He had said that Americans should not think of it as a war or slip into "war fever." Then he was forced to backtrack.

"These terms mean things to the military, and have implications for resource commitments," said Peter D. Feaver, a former national security aide to George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. "If you're using the term war, that implies a level of presidential commitment. The acid question is whether it is higher than Obama's own commitment."

--Helene Cooper contributed reporting from Atlanta, and Eric Schmitt from Monterey, Calif

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## **2. U.S. general talks of ground troops**

*Joint Chiefs chairman stresses the prospect of such a role in Iraq, but White House says it's all hypothetical*

Los Angeles Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A1 | W.J. Hennigan, Michael A. Memoli and Brian Bennett

Gen. Martin Dempsey, the military's top officer, repeatedly raised the prospect Tuesday of sending U.S. troops to fight alongside Iraqi soldiers against Islamic State militants, despite President Obama's vows not to do so.

Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the Senate Armed Services Committee that he would recommend using U.S. ground troops if he deemed it necessary to rescue a downed pilot, to call in airstrikes to assist Iraqi and Kurdish forces, or to help achieve a key military objective, such as freeing the captured city of Mosul.

"If we reach the point where I believe our advisors should accompany Iraqi troops on attacks against specific ISIL targets, I'll recommend that to the president," Dempsey said at the top of his prepared testimony, using one of several abbreviations for Islamic State.

Sending American troops back into ground combat in Iraq for the first time since U.S. forces were withdrawn in December 2011 would be a major escalation of the offensive Obama announced last week, and a political setback for the administration.

The White House quickly moved to clarify Dempsey's remarks, calling them "a hypothetical scenario." Col. Ed Thomas, a spokesman for Dempsey, later issued a statement saying the general believes the president's strategy is appropriate and "doesn't believe there is a military requirement" for U.S. advisors to accompany Iraqi troops into combat.

The incident suggested a growing rift between the White House and Pentagon at the outset of the intervention, much as Obama overruled Dempsey's recommendations in 2012 to train Syrian opposition groups seeking to topple President Bashar Assad.

White House officials have been frustrated in recent days as Pentagon officials described military plans before the president was ready to approve them, said a senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the internal debate.

The official said tension has developed because the war planners are eager to act, and the White House is seeking to build an international coalition and secure more cooperation from Iraq's new prime minister, Haider Abadi, before dramatically expanding the U.S. role.

Dempsey last month publicly warned that Islamic State could not be defeated unless the United States or its allies battled the militant group in Syria. At the time, that was at odds with the policy stated by Obama.

In his testimony Tuesday, Dempsey indicated that Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, the top commander of U.S. forces in the Middle East, had proposed using special operations forces or other specialists to help Iraqi troops retake the Mosul dam last month. The president did not approve the proposal, and the U.S. limited its support to intelligence and airstrikes.

"Dempsey views his role as the guy who tells it like it is without a political filter," said Samuel D. Brannen, senior fellow at the nonpartisan Center for Strategic and International Studies and a former Pentagon strategist. "He wants to make sure that the American people know what they're getting into and he's just being more candid than the administration."

It wasn't immediately clear whether Dempsey's warnings, a day before Obama heads to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida for briefings by top military commanders, were meant to ready the public for a reversal in strategy, or were simply language aimed at congressional hawks who have criticized Obama's strategy as too little too late to roll back the Sunni Muslim extremists who have overrun much of eastern Syria and northwestern Iraq.

Dempsey told the committee that U.S. troops may be required "at some point" to help Iraqi and Kurdish security forces retake Mosul, which fell in June. Thousands of Iraqi troops fled during the insurgents' advance, abandoning heavy weapons and ammunition. U.S. airstrikes in an urban area would probably kill Sunni Arab civilians, he said.

"It could very well be part of that particular mission to provide close combat advising or accompanying for that mission," Dempsey said of any effort to retake the city from Islamic State. "But for the day-to-day activities that I anticipate will evolve over time, I don't see it to be necessary right now."

Fresh fighting was reported on distant eastern and western flanks of Mosul on Tuesday, as Kurdish peshmerga forces supported by U.S. surveillance aircraft pushed the first counteroffensive back toward the strategic city.

Appearing at the same 3 1/2-hour hearing, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel outlined a military plan far broader than previously acknowledged for eventual cross-border U.S. airstrikes against Islamic State strongholds and other targets in Syria.

Hagel said the Pentagon is planning "targeted actions against ISIL safe havens in Syria, including its command and control, logistics capabilities and infrastructure."

Hagel warned that the campaign "will not be an easy or a brief effort. It is complicated. We are at war with ISIL, as we are with Al Qaeda."

Both men warned that the U.S. effort is open-ended.

"This will require a sustained effort over an extended period of time," Dempsey said. "It's a generational problem and we should expect that our enemies will adapt their tactics as we adjust our approach."

They were interrupted several times by protesters from Code Pink, an antiwar group, who shouted and waved signs opposing the U.S. role.

In separate closed-door briefings Tuesday on Capitol Hill, House members shared concerns about the White House plan to train and arm 5,000 anti-Assad Syrian fighters over the next year at bases in Saudi Arabia.

Lawmakers worried whether the opposition fighters would be appropriately vetted and could survive against the larger and better-armed Islamic State forces, and whether any U.S. military equipment would wind up in enemy hands.

But leaders from both parties expressed confidence that the House will vote Wednesday in favor of the president's request to support arming and training the "moderate" militant fighters.

House Speaker John A. Boehner (R-Ohio) said he expected the measure to pass the GOP-controlled House. "There's a lot more that we need to be doing, but there's no reason for us not to do what the president asked us to do," he said.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) said he expected the measure to pass the Democratic-controlled Senate after the House vote.

Nevertheless, Rep. Jim Himes (D-Conn.), a member of the House Intelligence Committee, said Dempsey's use of what Himes called the "G-word," referring to ground troops, had injected uncertainty. "That's going to change the dynamic a little bit for some people," he said.

Josh Earnest, the White House press secretary, said Dempsey "was referring to a hypothetical scenario in which there might be a future situation in which he might make a tactical recommendation to the president as it relates to the use of ground troops."

Obama, Earnest said, "does not believe that it would be in the best interest of our national security to deploy American ground troops in a combat role in Iraq and Syria. That policy has not changed."

Administration officials say the 1,600 U.S. military advisors in Baghdad and Irbil will help Iraqi commanders plan campaigns, arrange for logistics support, and coordinate coalition activities. White House officials have not ruled out the possibility that the U.S. force may grow.

Dempsey's appearance with Hagel was the first of several public hearings this week as the administration moves to develop and explain its strategy.

Secretary of State John F. Kerry will testify before the Senate and House foreign affairs committees on Wednesday and Thursday. Jeh Johnson, the secretary of Homeland Security, will appear before the House Homeland Security Committee on Wednesday, and the House Intelligence Committee will have a rare open session Thursday.

Obama met Tuesday at the White House with Gen. John R. Allen, the special envoy to coordinate the emerging coalition against Islamic State, and his deputy, Brett McGurk. Obama later flew to Tampa, Fla., where he will be briefed Wednesday by Gen. Austin, head of U.S. Central Command.

The Pentagon has successfully conducted 168 airstrikes against Islamic State positions and convoys in Iraq since Aug. 8. It has not yet launched attacks against the militants in Syria.

*--Times staff writers Lisa Mascaro and Kathleen Hennessey in Washington and Patrick J. McDonnell in Beirut contributed to this report*

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### **3. Dempsey: Half of Iraqi army not OK as U.S. partners**

Associated Press, Sept. 17 | Robert Burns

PARIS — About half of Iraq's army is incapable of partnering effectively with the U.S. to roll back the Islamic State group's territorial gains in western and northern Iraq, and the other half needs to be partially rebuilt with U.S. training and additional equipment, the top U.S. military officer said Wednesday.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a former wartime commander of U.S. training programs in Iraq, said a renewed U.S. training effort might revive the issue of gaining legal immunity from Iraqi prosecution for those U.S. troops who are training the Iraqis. The previous Iraqi government refused to grant immunity for U.S. troops who might have remained as trainers after the U.S. military mission ended in December 2011.

"There will likely be a discussion with the new Iraqi government, as there was with the last one, about whether we need to have" Iraqi lawmakers approve new U.S. training, he said. He didn't describe the full extent of such training but said it would be limited and he believed Iraq would endorse it.

"This is about training them in protected locations and then enabling them" with unique U.S. capabilities such as intelligence, aerial surveillance and air power, as well as U.S. advisers, so they can "fight the fight" required to push the Islamic State militants back into Syria, Dempsey said. He spoke with a small group of reporters traveling with him to Paris to meet with his French counterpart to discuss the conflicts in Syria and Iraq and other issues.

The bolstering of Iraqi security forces is one element in a multifaceted campaign plan that President Barack Obama is to be briefed on Wednesday in Tampa, Florida, when he meets with Gen. Lloyd Austin, head of U.S. Central Command, which manages U.S. military operations and relations across the Middle East.

A Pentagon plan for training Syrian rebels is another, more controversial element of the plan, which also includes potential airstrikes in Syria; building an international coalition to combat the Islamic State group in Syria and Iraq; and efforts to cut off finances and stem the flow of foreign fighters to the Islamic State group.

Once Obama signs off on the plan, the Iraq portion will need to be adapted, in consultation with the Iraqi government, to fit the Iraqis' priorities, Dempsey said.

Dempsey said U.S. military teams that spent much of the summer in Iraq assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the Iraqi security forces concluded that 26 of 50 army brigades were capable partners for the U.S. He described them as well led and well equipped, adding, "They appear to have a national instinct, instead of a sectarian instinct." He said the 24 other brigades were too heavily weighted with Shiites to be part of a credible national force.

Sectarianism has been a major problem for the Iraqi security forces for years and is in part a reflection of resentments that built up during the decades of rule under Saddam Hussein, who repressed the majority Shiite population, and the unleashing of reprisals against Sunnis after U.S. forces toppled him in April 2003. Sunni resistance led to the relatively brief rise of an extremist group called al-Qaida in Iraq, led by the late Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. That group withered but re-emerged as the Islamic State organization, which capitalized on Sunni disenchantment with the Shiite government in Baghdad.

Dempsey said no amount of U.S. military power will solve the problem of the Islamic State's takeover of large swaths of northern and western Iraq. The solution, he said, must begin with formation of an Iraqi government that is able to convince the country's Kurdish and Sunni populations that they will be equal partners with the Shiites in Iraq's future.

"I'm telling you, if that doesn't happen then it's time for Plan B," he said. He didn't say what that would entail.

Dempsey also said the Islamic State fighters in Iraq have reacted to weeks of U.S. airstrikes by making themselves less visible, and he predicted they would "literally litter the road networks" with improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, in the days ahead. That, in turn, will require more counter-IED training and equipment for the Iraq army, he said.

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#### **4. Shiite Militias Pose Challenge for U.S. in Iraq**

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A1 | David D. Kirkpatrick

BAGHDAD -- Militia justice is simple, the fighters explained.

"We break into an area and kill the ones who are threatening people," said one 18-year-old fighter with Asaib Ahl al-Haq, a Shiite militia that operates as a vigilante force around Baghdad.

Another 18-year-old fighter agreed. "We receive orders and carry out attacks immediately," he said, insisting that their militia commanders had been given authority by Iraqi security officials. That free hand has helped make Asaib Ahl al-Haq the largest and most formidable of the Iranian-backed Shiite militias that now dominate Baghdad.

Once a leading killer of American troops, the militia is spearheading the fight against the Sunni extremists of the Islamic State, also known by the acronyms ISIS and ISIL. That means Asaib Ahl al-Haq and the United States military are now fighting on the same side, though each insists they will not work together.

But the power and autonomy of Asaib Ahl al-Haq and other Shiite militias also pose a central challenge to the creation of a more just and less sectarian Iraqi government. President Obama has said that the new American military offensive depends on such an inclusive Iraqi government, to undercut the appeal of the Sunni extremists and avoid American entanglement in a sectarian war.

Even while many Iraqi Shiites view the militias as their protectors, many in the Sunni minority say they fear the groups as agents of Iran, empowered by the Baghdad government to kill with impunity.

After a decade of support from Iran and a new flood of recruits amid the Islamic State crisis, the Shiite militias are also now arguably more powerful than the Iraqi security forces, many here say, limiting the ability of any new government to rein them in.

"The militias have even bigger role now that they are said to be fighting ISIS" said Alla Maki, a Sunni lawmaker. "Who will control them? We have no real Iraqi Army."

Under former Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki, Asaib Ahl al-Haq was "encouraged to do dirty jobs like killing Sunnis, and they were allowed to operate freely," Mr. Maki said. "Now the international community are all being inspired by the removal of Maliki personally, but the policy is still going on."

The Asaib Ahl al-Haq fighters and the group's official spokesman insisted that their vigilante attacks protect all Iraqis, Sunnis as well as Shiites. "We have been able to track the sleeper cells of ISIS and secure almost all of Baghdad -- about 80 percent," said Naeem al-Aboudi, a spokesman for Asaib Ahl al-Haq, in a gleaming, leather-paneled conference room at its heavily fortified headquarters in an elite neighborhood of the capital.

In the current fight, he added, "the most dangerous areas in Iraq were assigned to Asaib Ahl al-Haq to lead the battle, because of the capability and professionalism of our fighters."

Asaib Ahl al-Haq was closely linked with Mr. Maliki, but Mr. Aboudi said it now sees itself as a "loyal opposition" to the new prime minister, Haider al-Abadi, charged with assembling that more inclusive government.

For starters, Mr. Aboudi said, Asaib Ahl al-Haq and the other large Shiite militias are negotiating with Mr. Abadi over the choices for defense and interior ministers. On Tuesday, the opposition of the Shiite militias helped block a parliamentary vote on those nominees.

Asked about complaints of discrimination and police abuse against Sunnis under the previous government, Mr. Aboudi said the whole question was backward: "I think Shiites are the real marginalized and persecuted community in Iraq. We have more problems as Shiites than the Sunnis, even though the election showed we are the majority."

So far, though, there is no sign of any official attempts to investigate even the most publicized allegations of extrajudicial killings of Sunnis by Asaib Ahl al-Haq.

At the end of July, a report from the research and advocacy group Human Rights Watch said it had documented the killings of 109 Sunni men -- 48 in March and April, and 61 between June 1 and July 9 -- in the villages and towns around Baghdad. Witnesses, medical personnel and government officials blamed Shiite militias for all of them, and "in many cases witnesses identified the militia as Asaib Ahl al-Haq," the report said.

In one case, Human Rights Watch wrote, a man kidnapped by fighters who identified themselves as members of Asaib Ahl al-Haq was later released because he convinced them that he was a Shiite, not a Sunni.

Human Rights Watch quoted a doctor in the Health Ministry: "Sunnis are a minority in Baghdad, but they're the majority in our morgue." But victims and witnesses said the security forces "seemed too scared of the militias" to act or investigate, said Erin Evers, the group's researcher in Baghdad.

A spokesman for the Iraqi Interior Ministry said it saw no pattern of sectarian killings, suggesting that ordinary crime was wrongly attributed to sectarianism when the victims were Sunnis. The spokesman, Saad Maan, denied that Asaib Ahl al-Haq or other militias were formally allowed to operate freely in Baghdad, although he acknowledged that to defend against the Islamic State the government had called on the Shiite militias to form a new volunteer force.

"There are bad people in each group," including Asaib Ahl al-Haq, Mr. Maan said. But he vowed that the situation would improve as Iraq strengthened its own police forces, especially with the new international support for the new prime minister, Mr. Abadi. "I think this is a turning point for Iraq," Mr. Maan said.

Asaib Ahl al-Haq, usually translated as League of the Righteous, is considered the most formidable of Iraq's three large Iranian-backed militias. The second is Kata'ib Hezbollah, which shares the Iranian patronage and ideology of the Lebanese group of the same name, but has no other known links to it. The third is the Badr Corps, led by Hadi al-Ameri, a lawmaker in the governing coalition who served as minister of transportation in Mr. Maliki's government.

Asaib Ahl al-Haq was created about 10 years ago, in the years after the American invasion, when its leader, Sheikh Qais al-Khazali, broke away from the forces loyal to the prominent Shiite cleric Moktada al-Sadr.

United States officials blame Asaib Ahl al-Haq for a long series of deadly attacks on American forces during their occupation of Iraq. In 2007, Sheikh Khazali led an attack in Falluja that killed five United States Marines, American officials say. He was captured and held for three years by American forces, then released in 2010. He was ultimately transferred to the Iraqi government and then released at the same time as his group released a British computer expert it had held hostage. But Iraqi and American officials denied any prisoner exchange.

The group's attacks continued even as the occupation was ending: In June 2011, for instance, Asaib Ahl al-Haq and other Iranian-backed militias killed 13 American soldiers in rocket attacks on their bases, and that November an Asaib Ahl al-Haq roadside bomb killed the last American to die before the withdrawal.

But by January 2012, virtually as soon as the Americans were gone, Mr. Maliki had invited the group back into Iraqi politics as a counterbalance to the influence of other powerful Shiite militias. Many of the group's leaders were soon reported to be returning from exile in Iran. Asaib Ahl al-Haq came to be known as the armed support for Mr. Maliki's Shiite political faction.

The group's spokesman declined to disclose its size, but Asaib Ahl al-Haq's numbers swelled vastly earlier this year when a prominent cleric urged Shiites to take up arms against the invading Sunni fighters. The group has been the leading force in critical fights like the recent battle for the town of Amerli, raising eyebrows among some American military personnel about the prospect of partnering with such enemies to fight the Islamic State.

Underscoring the tensions in the de facto alliance, the Kata'ib Hezbollah militia said Monday that it would leave the battlefield if American troops join in the ground fight -- an action that Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said Tuesday was a remote but real possibility as more American advisers became involved in Iraq.

"We will not fight alongside the American troops under any kind of conditions whatsoever," the militia said in a statement on its website, adding that its only contact with the Americans would be "if we fight each other."

Mr. Aboudi of Asaib Ahl al-Haq said his militia could accept American airstrikes or military attacks against specific targets, "under the supervision of the Iraqis." But he does not trust the Americans either, he said, arguing that Washington's ultimate goal was to divide Iraq and thus increase Israel's relative strength.

"America has been intervening in most of the Arab countries of the region," he said, "and it never brings stability."

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## **5. Iraqi Lawmakers Stall on Key Posts**

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A8 | Matt Bradley

BAGHDAD -- Iraq's parliament rejected two appointees to head the critical defense and interior ministries on Tuesday, a sign the prime minister is struggling to set up an inclusive government to better confront Islamic State insurgents.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, whose cabinet was approved last week with five of 33 seats unfilled, was trying to fill the two top security posts in the government. But the nominations by Mr. Abadi, a Shiite, got bogged down in divisions within rival sects.

The U.S. military, which has conducted more than 150 airstrikes on Islamic State in Iraq since early August, unleashed a new round of attacks near Baghdad early Tuesday local time. The strikes were the first since President Barack Obama announced an expanded mission last week.

Within Iraq's tightly prescribed sectarian and ethnic political power-sharing, the Ministry of Interior -- which controls the police -- typically goes to a Shiite Arab.

The Badr Corps, an Iranian-backed Shiite militia, had demanded that one of its leaders take the post after the group helped the Iraqi military confront Islamic State fighters. The Badr Corps is part of the Shiite National Alliance, a coalition of parties that nominated Mr. Abadi for prime minister.

On Monday, the group threatened to pull out of the alliance if one of its members wasn't appointed interior minister. But Mr. Abadi was reluctant to nominate a Shiite militia leader to the post, worried this would alienate Sunnis rather than draw them into the government.

Mr. Abadi instead nominated Riyadh Ghareeb, a Shiite engineer and former labor minister.

Sunni lawmakers faced a similar challenge to fill the defense minister position, which is traditionally given to a Sunni. Divisions among Sunnis prompted Mr. Abadi to force a vote on a candidate who, while less divisive, was also considered by many to be less qualified.

*--Jay Solomon contributed to this article*

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## **6. Lawmakers Supporting Request to Arm Rebels**

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A2 | Kristina Peterson and Michael R. Crittenden

WASHINGTON -- Congressional leaders from both parties on Tuesday backed President Barack Obama's request to train and equip Syrian rebels to fight Islamic State militants, predicting the measure would clear Congress as an attachment to a stopgap spending bill.

The House is scheduled to vote Wednesday on the White House request as an amendment to the spending bill Congress must pass this month to prevent a partial government shutdown in October. That bill would keep the government funded until Dec. 11, reauthorize the Export-Import Bank through June 30, 2015, and direct \$88 million in funding to help contain the Ebola outbreak.

The Senate is expected to take up the House-passed legislation later this week. "It will pass with bipartisan support," Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D., Nev.) said.

Both House Speaker John Boehner (R., Ohio) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.) said they supported the White House request, with Mr. McConnell praising House Republicans' decision to put an expiration date on the training-program authority.

Under the amendment from House Armed Services Chairman Buck McKeon (R., Calif.), the authority would expire when the spending bill's funding ends on Dec. 11 or when Congress passes a new defense-policy bill. "Even though I support what the president's doing, I'd like to take another look at it a couple of months from now," Mr. McConnell said.

The December deadline for the training program has caused concern among some Democrats. Others in the party worry the overall plan could ensnare the U.S. in another long-term conflict in the Middle East.

Congressional leaders have said they may bring up a broader use-of-force authorization after November's midterm elections to address Mr. Obama's longer-term strategy for combating Islamic State, often referred to as ISIS or ISIL.

"There's a comfort level," with the president's specific request, said Sen. Ben Cardin (D., Md.). "The concern is, Where does it lead?"

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## **7. Syrian Plane Shot Down as Attacks by Groups Intensify**

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A6 | Anne Barnard and Hwaida Saad

BEIRUT, Lebanon -- The warring parties in Syria have launched newly assertive attacks on several fronts in recent days, seeking to gain ground and psychological advantage ahead of an intensified United States campaign against extremist Islamic State militants that could include the first American airstrikes inside Syria.

On Tuesday, fighters with the Islamic State, also known as ISIS, said they had shot down a Syrian military aircraft over their stronghold in the northern city of Raqqa, in what antigovernment activists said was a first for the Islamic State.

Syrian-led insurgent groups have brought down numerous Syrian military planes and helicopters in the past, but such attacks have grown rare recently as rivals of the Islamic State struggle to maintain arms supplies. The downed plane crashed into a house, killing eight occupants, said an activist in Raqqa who refused to give his name for fear of reprisal.

Amid a three-year civil war that pits the government of President Bashar al-Assad against many insurgent and often rival factions, new attacks by the government in eastern Syria and in Damascus by opponents of the Islamic State demonstrated the volatility of the situation on the ground. It also showed the difficulty for the United States in striking the militants without allowing the Syrian government or Qaeda-linked insurgents to take advantage of any weakening of the Islamic State.

While the combatants scrambled on the battlefield, the chairman of a United Nations investigatory panel on human rights said in Geneva that he "had run out of words to depict the gravity of the crimes committed inside Syria."

In a report to the Human Rights Council, the chairman, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, said that even as the Islamic State carries out atrocities, the Syrian government "remains responsible for the majority of the civilian casualties, killing and maiming scores of civilians daily."

He described killing "from a distance" by shelling and aerial bombardment and "up close at checkpoints and in its interrogation rooms," presenting a report that also included new details of killings that were the work of the Islamic State.

Mr. Pinheiro reiterated that the panel had repeatedly urged the United Nations Security Council and influential states to refer Syria to the International Criminal Court and to push for a political settlement. Their inaction "nourished the violence" consuming Syria, he told the Council. "Its most recent beneficiary is ISIS," he said.

Both the Syrian government and its opponents say they are fighting the militant group, which has sought to impose a brutal interpretation of Islamic rule on areas it controls and in June swept into much of Iraq and declared an Islamic caliphate.

The Syrian government has offered to join the American coalition but has said that any strikes not coordinated with Syrian officials would violate its sovereignty. However, President Obama has ruled out working with Mr. Assad's government.

The speaker of Syria's Parliament, Mohammad al-Lahham, addressed letters to congressional leaders on Tuesday urging them to rethink American policy and seeking to persuade lawmakers that Syria is on the side of the United States against extremism.

He argued that the arming of any insurgents, even those the United States calls moderate, violated Security Council Resolution 2170 calling for member states to stop the flow of foreign fighters into Syria. He said Washington should share intelligence with Syria and put pressure on Turkey to better track the flow of militants into Syria and on the Saudis to stop promoting extremist Islamic ideology.

In Damascus on Tuesday, security forces carried out intensive raids in the Midan neighborhood, after insurgents not affiliated with the Islamic State infiltrated the district at dawn on Monday and clashed with government troops. It was the first ground attack in months across the broad bypass highway that divides the restive suburbs from the government-controlled city center.

State news media said insurgents entered through the sewer system and that all were killed. Rami al-Sayed, an insurgent spokesman in the Yarmouk refugee camp nearby, said that fighters from Islamist groups, including the Qaeda-linked Nusra Front and Ahrar al-Sham, entered from the south, attacking a checkpoint and clashing with government soldiers. Tallies of the insurgent death toll ranged from three to 18.

The Nusra Front said in a statement that it had killed numerous government fighters, including four security officers who were killed after being captured.

The government appeared to take the threat seriously after more than a year in which it has solidly held central Damascus, even as insurgents lobbed mortars into the city. Security forces were carrying out mass arrests and "storming and searching houses and shops," said Firas al-Nabisi, a resident of the nearby Zahra district.

Damascus has been accused of allowing the Islamic State to operate virtually with impunity in eastern Syria, to prove Mr. Assad's point that he is essential to combat terrorism. Lately, however, the government has been striking back.

On Monday, the Syrian Army blew up a bridge in the eastern provincial capital of Deir al-Zour, cutting off an area held by the group, according to state news media and insurgent spokesmen.

Then, on Tuesday, a government airstrike in northern Syria targeted Jamal Maarouf, the commander of the Syrian Revolutionaries Front, one of the insurgent groups the United States has deemed relatively moderate and has promised new aid to help in the campaign against the Islamic State.

Mr. Maarouf escaped the attack on the group's headquarters in Deir Sonbol, in Idlib Province, but it killed his wife and daughter and his deputy, Faisal Maarouf, two antigovernment activists said.

*--Nick Cumming-Bruce contributed reporting from Geneva; an employee of The New York Times from Raqqa, Syria; and Mohammad Ghannam from Beirut*

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## **AFRICA**

### **8. Obama Pressing Leaders to Speed Ebola Response**

*Disease spreading fast; Countries have weeks, not months, to act, officials say*

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A1 | Helene Cooper and Sheri Fink

ATLANTA -- President Obama on Tuesday challenged world powers to accelerate the global response to the Ebola outbreak that is ravaging West Africa, warning that unless health care workers, medical equipment and treatment centers were swiftly deployed, the disease could take hundreds of thousands of lives.

"This epidemic is going to get worse before it gets better," Mr. Obama said here at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where he met with doctors who had just returned from West Africa. The world, he said, "has the responsibility to act, to step up and to do more. The United States intends to do more."

Even as the president announced a major American deployment to Liberia and Senegal of medicine, equipment and 3,000 military personnel, global health officials said that time was running out and that they had weeks, not months, to act. They said that although the American contribution was on a scale large enough to make a difference, a coordinated assault in Africa from other Western powers was essential to bringing the virus under control.

"Everyone realizes that no one group or one country or one organization is going to be able to tackle this," Dr. Jim Yong Kim, the president of the World Bank and an expert in infectious diseases, said in a telephone interview hours after the bank's board unanimously approved a \$105 million grant as part of its previously announced assistance to the most affected of the countries. He praised the American effort as "extremely encouraging," but said it remained unclear how the United States would coordinate its effort with relief groups. "This is all being put together on the fly," he said.

Administration officials said they urgently needed stronger responses from Britain and France, countries that, along with the United States, have colonial ties to the three hardest-hit African countries: Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

So far, France has sent \$13 million to Guinea for two tons of medical equipment and the construction of medical centers, and \$15.5 million and 24 doctors to Senegal and Ivory Coast, other former French colonies. British troops,

the government said last week, are headed to Sierra Leone, a former British colony, to build and staff a 63-bed facility near the capital, Freetown.

On Tuesday night, administration officials said the Pentagon would ask Congress to redirect \$500 million from existing Defense Department funds to fight Ebola. The money is in addition to \$500 million the Pentagon requested last week in redirected funds for both Iraq and Ebola.

In Washington, New York and Geneva, health experts expressed astonishment and alarm at the virus's rapid spread.

"The pace of the disease and also its impact have taken our breath away -- it's been that massive," said Shanelle Hall, director of the supply division at Unicef, which has sent about 550 tons of supplies to West Africa in the past several weeks and has plans to almost triple that amount by the beginning of next month. "We hope other governments also come in with commensurate levels of support."

On Capitol Hill, Dr. Beth P. Bell, the director of the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases at the C.D.C., told a Senate hearing that although Ebola did not currently pose a significant public health threat to the United States, "there is a window of opportunity to control the spread of this disease, but that window is closing."

At the United Nations, the Security Council prepared to convene for a rare emergency meeting on Thursday to mobilize a response. It also took action on a global health issue in 2000 and 2011, when it passed resolutions on AIDS.

Senior United Nations officials said in Geneva that cases of the disease were rising at an almost exponential rate, with the number of reported cases now at 4,985, including 2,461 deaths. Half of the infections, according to Dr. Bruce Aylward, an assistant director general of the World Health Organization, occurred in the past 21 days, underscoring the acceleration of the outbreak. "We don't know where the numbers are going with this," Dr. Aylward said at a news conference.

Mr. Obama echoed those words. "We can't dawdle on this one," the president said. "We have to move with force and make sure that we are catching this as best we can, given that it has already broken out in ways that we had not seen before."

But just how fast the American military can build 17 treatment centers of 100 beds each in Liberia, as planned, is still in question. Liberian officials say 1,000 beds are needed there in the next week alone to contain the disease. American military officials cautioned that they were not close to getting that number of beds up and running and said it would take time -- perhaps as long as two weeks -- before personnel arrived to begin setting up the first treatment centers.

Defense Department officials said that once constructed, the treatment centers would be turned over to Liberia and staffed by local and international health care providers, although health care experts say they are having difficulty finding doctors. A small number of American physicians and nurses are among the 3,000 military personnel en route to Liberia and Senegal, but administration officials said they would serve as trainers to other health care workers.

Some health experts said the president's plan focused too much on Liberia and not enough on Guinea and Sierra Leone. "An uneven response in the region may trigger unintended flows of people seeking care from American centers," said Dr. Jack Chow, a professor of global health at Carnegie Mellon University and a former official at the World Health Organization.

But in Liberia, half a year after the start of the outbreak, the authorities remain incapable of carrying out the most basic steps needed to stop the spread of Ebola, including picking up the dead and isolating potentially infectious people. In the capital, bodies are often left in houses and neighborhoods for up to three days before they are taken away by burial teams. Because of a shortage of ambulances, families with visibly sick relatives take taxis to full treatment centers, where they are often turned away.

As Ebola spread through the capital last month, Liberia's government initially asserted control over the fight against the virus, even placing an entire slum in Monrovia under quarantine, against international advice. But facing a deteriorating situation on the ground and increasing pressure by politicians and the news media to "outsource" the battle, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf wrote to Mr. Obama and the leaders of China, Russia and several other countries asking for direct help.

Because of Liberia's historical ties to the United States -- it was founded by freed American slaves in 1822 -- a visible American military presence would not draw the kind of backlash it would elsewhere in Africa.

On Tuesday, many in Monrovia welcomed news of greater American involvement. "It will help us," said the Rev. Otis Borbor, the pastor at the Lighthouse Assemblies of God church in Caldwell, one of Monrovia's most affected neighborhoods. "That's what we were praying for, the pastors. We were praying to God that he may send people to rescue us and carry help to the country. So when we heard that, we were happy."

*--Helene Cooper reported from Atlanta, and Sheri Fink from New York. Reporting was contributed by Denise Grady and Donald G. McNeil Jr. from New York; Nick Cumming-Bruce from Geneva; Norimitsu Onishi from Monrovia, Liberia; and Ashley Parker from Washington*

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## **9. Ebola Is New Foe for Military**

### ***Troops Face Pressure to Set Up African Hospitals Quickly, Minimize Disease Risks***

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A3 | Betsy McKay and Dion Nissenbaum

ATLANTA -- President Barack Obama's plan to contain the Ebola outbreak presents the U.S. military with a logistical challenge with few precedents, one that it will be under pressure to execute quickly while ensuring that the 3,000 military personnel involved are protected from the deadly virus.

Mr. Obama on Tuesday warned that the epidemic could not only infect "hundreds of thousands of people," but carry wide security implications, even though chances of an outbreak in the U.S. are "extremely low."

"It's a potential threat to global security if these countries break down, if their economies break down, if people panic," Mr. Obama said after a briefing at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The American military has experience responding to humanitarian crises abroad, including the 2010 earthquake and cholera outbreak in Haiti and the 1994 East African refugee crisis created by the Rwandan genocide. But the Ebola

crisis in West Africa presents a unique set of challenges, according to J. Stephen Morrison, head of the Global Health Policy Center at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The operation will require the military to fuse its experience in responding to natural disasters with its training in biowarfare to minimize the risks of Americans contracting the disease. Personnel will bring medical assistance and training, logistical expertise and engineering experience to set up 17 field hospitals with 100 beds each, more than tripling current capacity.

"This is unprecedented as a public-health operation led by the U.S. military," Mr. Morrison said.

A defense official said the Pentagon anticipates having the Ebola treatment units running "in the next several weeks." The official said the centers would be turned over to Liberia and staffed by local and international health-care providers, not U.S. military personnel.

In addressing the health crisis, the operation also might help to counter extremism across the continent, said retired Army Gen. Carter Ham. U.S. forces have taken part in a growing tempo of counterterrorism operations in Africa in recent years.

Public-health and humanitarian-aid experts cautioned that the success of the plan will depend on how quickly the U.S. can get the new treatment centers up and staffed. Because of the serious disease risks, this military effort is likely to take longer than previous humanitarian-relief efforts undertaken by the U.S., Mr. Morrison said.

"There are grave consequences to acting without preparation in something like this," said Michael VanRooyen, director of the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and a physician experienced in working in such crises. He called Mr. Obama's plan "aggressive and comprehensive."

The World Health Organization's official toll is 4,963 cases, including 2,453 deaths, but epidemiologists say the true toll is likely three or four times greater.

Experts said the plan can work only if other countries also step up aid, which so far falls far short of the \$987 million the United Nations said on Tuesday is needed for to combat Ebola.

"This is a good start, but it's only a start," said Nils Daulaire, a former assistant secretary for global affairs for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and former U.S. representative on the WHO's executive board. "It shouldn't be up to just the U.S. This is an issue that requires a multinational response."

New pledges include one from the Chinese to dispatch a 59-person mobile-laboratory team to Sierra Leone with epidemiologists, doctors and nurses, the WHO said Tuesday.

In Congress, Republicans said the administration had responding slowly to date, but GOP leaders said they support the plan and will look to enhance it. A stopgap spending bill that Congress is considering this week includes the full \$88 million requested by the White House to address the outbreak.

Mr. Obama planned to send Congress a request on Wednesday for an additional \$500 million from funds that lawmakers already appropriated for overseas contingencies.

"I think in the coming weeks you're going to see the Congress and the administration take further steps to look at how we can best contain this very horrible disease," House Speaker John Boehner (R., Ohio) said Tuesday.

Liberia, founded by freed American slaves, has a profound fondness for the U.S., and Liberians welcomed the news on Tuesday of the intensified American response. "The opinion in the street is this is welcome, very much appreciated," said Archie Ponpon, a resident of Monrovia's West Point neighborhood, where police have been sent to quarantine residents who don't believe Ebola is present.

*--Kristina Peterson and Drew Hinshaw contributed to this article*

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## UKRAINE/RUSSIA

### 10. Under Pressure, Ukraine Leader to Seek Aid on U.S. Visit

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A4 | Neil MacFarquhar

KIEV, Ukraine -- Seeking elusive military and economic aid from the United States, President Petro O. Poroshenko of Ukraine headed to North America on Tuesday, while also facing increasingly skeptical questions both here and abroad about the slow pace of change.

A White House meeting with President Obama and an address to a joint session of Congress on Thursday are likely to generate fresh moral support, if little else, for Ukraine in its conflict with Russia.

"It is a clear sign of solidarity and support from the United States," Pavlo Klimkin, the foreign minister, said in a brief interview before leaving.

Photo opportunities alone are enough to help Mr. Poroshenko domestically, although given its raft of problems, Ukraine would like more. Winter looms with gas supplies from Russia cut off; it is unclear that limited self-rule for Russian-backed separatists regions is enough to satisfy the Kremlin; and the country is spending itself toward bankruptcy.

Ukraine's leaders tried to put a celebratory face on new laws pushed through Parliament on Tuesday, even if they were mostly symbolic at this stage. One ratified closer economic and political ties with Europe, while the second tried to cement a recent truce with the separatists by supporting temporary self-rule for the regions of Luhansk and Donetsk.

"We are fixing the 350-year-old mistake: Ukraine is Europe," Arseniy P. Yatsenyuk, the prime minister, told Parliament, known as the Rada. "It's a shame that this agreement is sealed with blood. But that was the choice. That was the price of independence."

Despite the warm public embrace Mr. Poroshenko can expect in Washington, behind closed doors there will be questions about whether the February revolution is slouching toward the same failure as the 2004 Orange revolution, with public demands for change smothered by the personal ambitions of its staggeringly wealthy, isolated political class.

"There are too many signs of politics as usual, Ukrainian style," Thomas O. Melia, the deputy assistant secretary of state for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Law, said at a weekend conference here.

The February overthrow of Viktor F. Yanukovich, the previous president, and the May presidential election were expected to usher in a transition period to address significant issues of corruption and economic reform, he noted.

"So that is where we are after six months? We almost have our first major law through the Rada, but not yet," Mr. Melia said.

"In order to keep the coalition intact to defend Ukraine from military aggression, you have to make progress on the domestic reforms," he added. "It is not two different battles; it is the same battle. If the domestic institutions and habits don't get fixed now, then the consensus and support for defending Ukraine against Russian aggression will disappear."

Mr. Poroshenko sought to portray the laws passed Tuesday as triumphs for Ukraine. But in reality Russia holds the keys to both.

Because of Kremlin opposition, the measure on forging closer economic ties with Europe will be delayed for at least 15 months. The autonomy measures will be meaningless without Russian approval, since Ukraine does not actually control the territory addressed by the law. Separatist leaders in Donetsk and Luhansk reacted by stressing that they would still seek independence.

Political critics accused the government of abandoning the southeast in the face of Russian aggression, with the death toll above 3,000 people. Russia denies direct involvement, but President Vladimir V. Putin seems bent on keeping Ukraine destabilized to prevent it from moving out of Moscow's orbit.

In an embarrassing blow to the Ukrainian president, Parliament failed to pass what Mr. Poroshenko had advertised as the cornerstone of his anti-corruption campaign: laws meant to establish an anticorruption bureau.

A recent Gallup report found that one in three Ukrainians had been asked to pay a bribe last year, and that eight out of 10 paid. Even after 23 years of independence, Ukraine still has a highly centralized, Soviet-style government. Farmers must ask government permission to change their crops, for example, while universities won the right to order their own supplies -- like pencils -- only in July. Rebuilding the judiciary and the police is considered essential.

"The bribes start with payments to the local doctor and end with bribes to the president," said Tamara Trafenchuk, a retiree who was touring the opulent estate built by the former president, Mr. Yanukovich, on Kiev's outskirts. "We want more decisive steps on corruption and economic reforms."

In their own defense, government officials have said they are trying to carry out a herculean task: delivering radical reforms while fighting a war, even as the economy collapses. A gas dispute with Russia and lack of coal from the separatist areas means winter fuel supplies are uncertain.

The International Monetary Fund, which has agreed to lend Ukraine about \$18 billion over two years, estimates that the economy will shrink by more than 6.5 percent this year.

The top Democratic and Republican senators on the Foreign Relations Committee introduced a proposal to increase aid to Ukraine and impose more sanctions on Russia. The bill will be voted on by the committee within hours of Mr. Poroshenko's speech to Congress, according to its sponsors, Senators Bob Menendez, Democrat of New Jersey, and Bob Corker, Republican of Tennessee.

But Mr. Obama is not expected to go beyond the \$70 million in training and nonlethal aid like night vision goggles that has already been pledged.

Given the deepening crisis, Ukrainian political leaders issue frequent calls for national unity. But each key leader is running a separate slate for Parliament.

Some analysts have suggested that the war might actually abet the reform process, because military veterans will insist on reforms so that their fellow soldiers will not have died in vain.

"If you want to die for this country, you will work honestly in Parliament," said Capt. Pavlo Kyshkar, a candidate on the slate of an independent party.

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## **11. Ukraine Moves Reflect Moscow's Shadow**

### ***Parliament in Kiev Ratifies Deal with European Union, but Only After Concessions, While Rebels Criticize Autonomy Plan***

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A9 | James Marson and Paul Sonne

Ukraine sought to draw a line under its confrontation with Moscow by ratifying a landmark trade-and-political deal with the European Union and approving limited autonomy for territories now controlled by Russia-backed separatists.

But with full implementation of the EU deal postponed under Russian pressure, and the rebels insisting on independence, the developments illustrated Kiev's weakened position – almost a year after Moscow began flexing its muscle to keep the ex-Soviet republic in its orbit.

Many lawmakers in Kiev broke into the national anthem and cried "Glory to Ukraine" after the EU deal passed with 355 votes in the 450-seat legislature. President Petro Poroshenko hailed it as a first step toward eventual membership in the bloc.

"No country has paid such a high price for its European choice," he said before the vote. "After that who can close the door to Ukraine?"

But despite patriotic fervor and the symbolism of a video link with the European Parliament, which also approved the deal, the victory for Kiev's new, pro-Western government has been hollowed out by events of the past year.

Russia has occupied and annexed Ukraine's Crimean peninsula. Six months of heavy fighting in the country's east have left at least 3,000 dead and battered Ukraine's economy.

Rivals of Mr. Poroshenko's party assailed the autonomy law as caving to Moscow by effectively ceding control to the rebels. Separatist leaders said they would stick to their demands for full independence but stopped short of denouncing the law outright, meaning the conflict could fester for years.

The Kremlin didn't comment on the Ukrainian parliament's actions Tuesday.

It was the former Ukrainian president's rejection of the EU pact last fall, under pressure from the Kremlin, that sparked months of protests and dozens of deaths, leading to his ouster.

But Russia shocked Kiev and the West with its determination to keep Ukraine in its orbit, escalating up to what the North Atlantic Treaty Organization last month called a direct military intervention. Russia has denied sending troops into Ukraine.

Reeling on the battlefield, Mr. Poroshenko was left with little choice but to conclude a cease-fire that ceded territory to the separatists. To head off a threatened trade war with Russia, he also agreed to delay implementing a major portion of the EU deal until 2016.

The autonomy law would allow for three years of greater self-governance after local elections on Dec. 7. It calls for local control over courts and prosecutors, protection of Russian-language rights and more economic autonomy in rebel-held areas.

Parliament also passed a law offering broad amnesty to separatists. Both must still be signed by the president.

In an interview on Russian state television, Andrei Purgin, a rebel leader in Donetsk region, rejected "the political embraces of Ukraine." But he added, "We will study this framework law closely and look for points of commonality for further talks." He said the separatists are ready to discuss "economic, sociocultural issues and security."

The autonomy law limits the separatists' powers to matters typically handled by city or district governments, but it isn't clear how Kiev would be able to enforce restrictions on other matters such as foreign trade on territory it doesn't control.

While the Sept. 5 cease-fire deal calls for international monitoring of the border with Russia, separatists still control a long stretch of it. Last weekend they received a convoy of more than 200 trucks that Russia said contained food -- but which weren't inspected by Ukrainian officials.

A NATO military officer said Tuesday that Russia still has a significant presence of "highly trained, professional combat troops" inside Ukraine.

"Since the cease-fire we have seen reductions, but we still assess that around 1,000 Russian combat troops are currently fighting inside Ukraine," said the officer. "They are equipped with hundreds of combat vehicles and artillery. This Russian combat force has all it needs to continue undermining stability in eastern Ukraine in the days ahead."

Moscow has plenty of tools to bring Kiev to heel, including the newly frozen conflict in the east and the ability to choke Ukraine's fragile economy. The EU, meanwhile, has demonstrated it will only provide limited support to Ukraine against its neighbor.

Most Ukrainians want to move closer to Europe, and polls show that pro-European parties, including Mr. Poroshenko's, will dominate parliamentary elections called for Oct. 26.

But analysts say Russia is betting on a winter of discontent with the pro-European government amid economic pain and limited progress on fighting government corruption -- another trigger for the street protests last winter.

Ukraine's parliament passed an anticorruption law Tuesday as hundreds of demonstrators outside scuffled with police, set tires on fire and tossed one lawmaker into a garbage bin.

Nikolai Maslov, a 34-year-old entrepreneur who was among protesters, cheered its passage but lamented the delay in the EU pact. "It is just the weakness of our government and the weakness of its position," he said.

*--Andrey Ostroukh and Naftali Bendavid contributed to this article*

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## **12. Analysis: Obama Administration Strategy On Russia Echoes Predecessor's**

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A9 | Philip Shishkin

WASHINGTON -- By refraining from arming Ukraine in its fight with pro-Russia separatists, the Obama administration adopted a cautious approach similar to the Bush administration's handling of Russia's 2008 invasion of Georgia.

Then as now, Washington faced requests for lethal military aid from a besieged government of a post-Soviet republic whose flirtation with the West triggered a Russian military pushback. Then as now, the White House turned down those requests out of concern that American weaponry would provoke Moscow into escalating the fight and risk dragging in the U.S.

Critics say that Washington's reluctance to assist Ukraine with weapons and advanced reconnaissance gear has failed to achieve its stated goal of a military de-escalation. Instead, they say, it may have emboldened Moscow to behave more aggressively in its former Soviet domain.

"The argument of military assistance being escalatory has it backward," said Damon Wilson, executive vice president of the Atlantic Council, who worked on the National Security Council in the Bush administration. "Not providing lethal aid has an escalatory effect" by giving the Kremlin the sense of a free rein, he said.

Washington has provided some nonlethal military aid to Ukraine this year, including food rations, radios and flak jackets. A senior administration official said lethal aid hasn't been ruled out, and that new assistance is likely to be announced when Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko meets with President Barack Obama on Thursday.

Among the things the Ukrainians have asked for are counter-battery radar, designed to pinpoint the location of artillery; surveillance drones; and advanced weapons that can pierce the armor of the latest Russian-made tanks.

"It's our assessment that if we were to provide [lethal aid], a likely result would be military escalation and greater Russian involvement," the administration official said. "Our concern is that Ukraine faces inescapable military asymmetry with Russia."

That reasoning reflects the degree to which the Obama and Bush administrations, despite often divergent worldviews, have both been careful to avoid any appearance of a proxy war with Russia, according to current and former administration officials.

Some officials in the State Department, and in the U.S. Embassy in Kiev, have advocated for U.S. lethal aid to Ukraine, but have so far found little support in a White House that has insisted that the crisis has no military solution, according to current and former officials. Instead, the White House has imposed several rounds of sanctions that have damaged the Russian economy but had no apparent impact on Russia's paramilitary offensive in east Ukraine.

Eugene Rumer, who served as Russia and Eurasia officer on the U.S. National Intelligence Council until earlier this year, said: "People are proposing to arm Ukraine to fight to the last drop of Ukrainian blood. The U.S. will not fight Russia for Ukraine. It's clear that Ukraine can't win alone. So are you encouraging them to do something that's doomed to fail?"

Supporters of lethal aid argue that U.S.-supplied weaponry would make the war more costly for Moscow, which might get Kiev better terms at the negotiating table.

Even those who back the idea of lethal aid caution that it needs to be weighed carefully on a battlefield already saturated with weapons on both sides, and rife with civilian deaths.

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### **13. Russia to send troops to Crimea as NATO holds exercises in Ukraine**

Reuters, Sept. 16 | Thomas Grove

MOSCOW -- Russia threatened to send more troops to its newly-annexed territory of Crimea on Tuesday, after NATO began exercises in western Ukraine while Kiev's forces are fighting pro-Russian separatists in the east.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said the escalation of tensions in Ukraine and the presence of foreign military near Russia's borders made the deployment of troops a top priority in Crimea, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in March.

"The situation in Ukraine has escalated sharply and the presence of foreign military has increased in the immediate vicinity of our borders," Itar-Tass quoted Shoigu as telling military commanders.

"The deployment of proper and self-sufficient forces to Crimea is one of (our) top priorities."

Unrest in Ukraine, which Kiev says is being fanned by Russian weapons and soldiers, has plunged ties between Russia and the West to their worst since the end of the Cold War.

Moscow warned that NATO's Rapid Trident exercises, which will last until Sept. 26 and involve more than 1,000 troops from the United States and its allies, threatened peace efforts in eastern Ukraine, including a fragile ceasefire.

NATO said Russia still had around 1,000 soldiers and hundreds of combat vehicles and artillery inside Ukraine, despite some cuts in troop numbers since the ceasefire began on Sept. 5.

The Rapid Trident exercises, seen as a sign of alliance's commitment to support non-member Ukraine, are to be held around Lviv near Ukraine's border with Poland, nearly 1,000 km (600 miles) from the rebel stronghold of Donetsk in the east.

NATO officials have said the bloc will not send "lethal assistance" to Ukraine, but member states may do so.

Earlier this month, a senior Ukrainian official said Kiev had agreed on the provision of weapons and military advisers from several members of the U.S.-led alliance. Four of the five countries named, including the United States, denied this.

On Tuesday, Russian parliamentary speaker Sergei Naryshkin said shipments of weapons from NATO countries would "abet war crimes" in Ukraine, where Moscow accuses Kiev's forces of bombing residential areas.

Washington has promised Ukraine \$52 million in non-lethal security aid and has already provided combat rations, body armor, radios and other equipment. Pentagon leaders have met Ukrainian counterparts to discuss cooperation, but, for now, arms supplies have been ruled out.

The United States European Command says exercises in Ukraine will involve about 200 U.S. personnel and 1,100 from Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Britain, Canada, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Romania and Spain.

Focused on peacekeeping, it will include command post drills, patrolling and dealing with improvised explosive devices.

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## **AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN**

### **14. Al Qaeda Foiled in Raid on Pakistan Frigate**

***Security Officials Pin Sept. 6 Attack on Terror Organization's Newly Formed Regional Wing; Hijacking Aimed at U.S. Ships***

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A7 | Syed Shoaib Hasan, Saeed Shah and Siobhan Gorman

KARACHI, Pakistan -- Al Qaeda militants tried to hijack a Pakistan Navy frigate earlier this month and use it to target U.S. Navy vessels on antiterrorism patrol in the northwestern Indian Ocean, Pakistani security officials said.

The Sept. 6 raid, which was foiled after a fire fight and a suicide bombing, was carried out in part by Pakistan Navy personnel who had been recruited by al Qaeda, these officials said. The raid, in which 10 militants and one petty officer died, raised fears about terrorist infiltration of the nuclear-armed nation's military forces.

"Without assistance from inside, these people could not have breached security," Defense Minister Khawaja Asif said about the incident at a recent parliament session.

The Karachi raid was the first major operation carried out by al Qaeda's newly formed regional wing, al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent, according to counterterrorism officials. The timing of the raid may have been set to mark the start of the affiliate or to coincide roughly with the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, Western security officials believe.

News of the attempted seizure of the frigate, PNS Zulfiqar, was initially kept from the media, and the details of the incident are only beginning to emerge.

The Karachi plot has drawn comparison with the October 2000 attack on U.S. Navy destroyer USS Cole by al Qaeda in the Yemeni port of Aden, in which 17 U.S. sailors died.

It isn't unheard of for al Qaeda to recruit within the Pakistani military, a U.S. official said, but "these occurrences are rare." Still, there have been several attacks on military facilities and personnel in Pakistan carried out with the help of serving and retired military.

In the attempted seizure of PNS Zulfiqar, "the rogue officers were in uniform and had their service cards displayed. They simply walked on board," one Pakistani security official said.

Pakistani officials said the frigate was due to sail the same day to join an international naval flotilla in the Indian Ocean. On Aug. 15, Pakistan took over from Britain's Royal Navy the command of Combined Task Force-150, a multinational maritime security coalition that includes the U.S. and is focused on combating terrorism.

"It appears the officers on board were to be joined by other militants who were to arrive by boat from the sea and then stow away on board," the Pakistani security official said. "The plan was to get close to the U.S. ships on the high seas, and then turn the shipboard weapon systems on the Americans." The frigate's weaponry includes an antiship missile system with a range of up to 186 miles.

The militants' plan was foiled primarily by the alertness of PNS Zulfiqar's gunner. The militants who were supposed to board PNS Zulfiqar approached the docked ship in an inflatable boat, wearing Marine uniforms.

"The gunner felt they were too close and their weapons appeared to be AK-47s, which aren't standard Marine issue," a Pakistani security official said. "The gunner turned his sights on them and fired a warning shot. The militants, fearing the game was up, also retaliated with rockets and automatic weapons."

At the sound of the firing, Marines and naval commandos rushed to the ship and were engaged by the renegade officers awaiting the militants on the inflatable boat.

While those on board the ship continued to fight it out for a few hours, the ones in the inflatable boat had no chance, security officials said. The gunner ripped apart the boat with his Gatling anti-aircraft gun, killing all six in the boat.

The four rogue naval men were killed aboard the frigate, officials said. The battle ended when the last surviving rogue naval officer -- a young Navy sublieutenant -- blew himself up after being surrounded.

Among those killed on the inflatable boat was former Pakistan Navy Lt. Owais Jakhani. Officials said he had been recently dismissed for harboring extremist views. Pakistani intelligence officials believe he played the key role in recruiting naval personnel to al Qaeda.

A Western counterterrorism official said the intended target could have been an American naval supply ship deployed in the Indian Ocean.

"If they hadn't been detected, the minimal damage would have been similar to the USS Cole in 2000. However, if they had somehow managed to maneuver the weapons systems, then we are talking about a full scale naval engagement," said another Pakistani security official.

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### **15. Taliban Attack Kills Three Foreign Troops**

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A7 | Margherita Stancati and Ehsanullah Amiri

KABUL -- A Taliban suicide bomber attacked a foreign military convoy in Kabul on Tuesday, killing three foreign coalition soldiers and rattling the Afghan capital.

The convoy of armored cars was hit by an attacker in an explosives-laden car as it was approaching the entrance to a military base, security officials said. The blast, which took place on a major road that goes from the U.S. Embassy in central Kabul toward the airport, shook buildings in surrounding neighborhoods, and sent a dark plume of smoke over the city.

A Pentagon official said two of the killed soldiers were American. The Polish government said one Polish soldier was killed and two injured.

U.S. soldiers rushed to the scene and delivered first aid to their injured comrades, who lay on the side of the road with their uniforms in tatters. Hashmat Stanikzai, a spokesman for the Kabul police, said 15 Afghan civilians were also wounded.

Zabiullah Mujahid, a spokesman for the Taliban insurgency, said the attackers were waiting in the neighborhood for the convoy to arrive.

Coalition casualties have shrunk over the past two years as foreign troops pulled back from combat to focus on training Afghan policemen and soldiers, who now do most of the fighting. Convoys crossing the capital are now one of few opportunities insurgents have to target foreign forces.

This year, Afghan troops have seen record casualties as the Taliban amassed fighters in high numbers to press a countrywide offensive. Since March 21, when the Afghan calendar year began, 2,200 Afghan policemen have died in combat, according to the Ministry of Interior. By comparison, 28 foreign soldiers were killed over the same period, according to coalition data.

The Taliban changed their tactics this year, said Minister of Interior Umar Daudzai.

"Until this year, local Taliban created problems for police checkpoints. This year, they gathered groups from a large surrounding area and focused on one district or part of a district." The result has been a higher number of police casualties, he said.

--Julian E. Barnes contributed to this article

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## **16. Afghanistan seeks a budget bailout**

***\$537 million requested from U.S., other donors; situation called 'critical'***

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A10 | Tim Craig

KABUL - Afghanistan's central government is nearly broke and needs a \$537 million bailout from the United States and other international donors within "five or six days" to continue paying its bills, a senior Afghan finance official said Tuesday.

Crippled by a growing budget shortfall, the Afghan government has spent hundreds of millions of dollars of easily accessible reserve funds this year, said Alhaj M. Aqa, the director general of the treasury at the Finance Ministry.

The government was barely able to cover its September payroll for more than 500,000 national and provincial employees, he added. And with its October payroll deadlines approaching, Aqa said the country's financial challenges are now "critical."

Officials blame the financial woes on the ongoing stalemate over who won the election to replace outgoing President Hamid Karzai.

"We hope they will pay for us, and we are asking at once," Aqa said of ongoing discussions with the U.S. government and other international donors. "They are asking me when I need it, and I told them this week or we will have a problem."

If additional money is not allocated, Aqa said, the government will have to begin deferring payment of bills for items ranging from fuel for government vehicles to official stationery. The fiscal crisis could also hamper the government's ability to feed more than 350,000 Afghan soldiers and police officers, Aqa said. Salaries for police and army personnel are not at risk because they are paid with funds that come directly from the U.S.-led coalition.

A senior U.S. Embassy official in Kabul acknowledged discussions between Afghan and American officials over how to resolve the impending crisis. In a statement, the embassy said that it is "working to find ways to help the new government meet some of its challenges and priorities using resources already allocated."

Earlier this year, before the Obama administration faced major foreign policy crises in Ukraine and Iraq, Congress made initial moves to limit U.S. spending in Afghanistan. At the time, the administration was growing impatient over Karzai's refusal to sign a long-term security agreement with the United States.

But U.S. military leaders and diplomats have since appeared more receptive to the country's needs. At this month's NATO summit, for example, the international coalition approved spending \$5.1 billion each year in support of Afghan security forces through 2017 - \$1 billion more than was initially planned.

Still, although U.S. officials stressed they do not envision the Afghan budget problems requiring a new appropriation from Congress, any additional assistance could prompt fresh scrutiny of future American spending in the country.

An official with the World Bank said the organization was also "part of the discussion" but declined to comment further.

The Afghan government's request for additional funds would help it pay its bills until the end of the budget year in December, Aqa said.

Afghanistan's government has an annual operating budget of about \$7.6 billion, about 65 percent of which comes from international assistance. The current fiscal crunch is a result of a 25 percent shortfall in Afghanistan's domestic revenue collection from taxes and customs tariffs this year, Aqa said.

He said the gap was created by the country's nearly year-long presidential contest, which has reduced foreign investment and made Afghans skittish about spending money.

In April, eight candidates competed in an election to replace Karzai. But no candidate received more than 50 percent of the vote, forcing a June runoff between former finance minister Ashraf Ghani and former foreign minister Abdullah Abdullah.

Amid allegations of widespread fraud, the outcome of that contest is in doubt because of disagreements between Ghani and Abdullah over the possible formation of a unity government.

Ahmad Shekib Mostaghni, director of communications for the Foreign Ministry, said officials are optimistic that international assistance will be forthcoming.

He noted that Ghani and Abdullah have signaled in recent days that they are close to striking a deal on a new government. Mostaghni said international donors have been hesitant to commit additional funds until the election is resolved.

"Because of the concern of the international community, some of the financial assistance promised has been delayed, but we are working very hard," Mostaghni said. "Everyone knows the issues and problems of the election [have] had many negative impacts, and all officials in the government are concerned about these fiscal problems."

According to the World Bank, Afghanistan will need more than \$7 billion annually for the next decade to sustain a functional government, maintain infrastructure, and fund the Afghan army and police.

Since the fall of the Taliban in 2001, the U.S. government has appropriated \$104 billion rebuilding and supporting the Afghan government, military and public services, according to the Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction.

About \$16 billion of it remains unspent, and the United States is expected to appropriate an additional \$5 billion to \$8 billion per year for at least a decade, John F. Sopko, the inspector general, said in a speech last week at Georgetown University.

"The bottom line: It appears we've created a government that the Afghans simply cannot afford," Sopko said.

But Aqa said he's optimistic the fiscal crisis won't stretch into next year because, he said, lawmakers will readjust spending priorities before the completion of next year's budget.

"We will manage it, if we receive \$537 million," Aqa said. "Next year, we will not have any problem because we make a budget based on our estimation of domestic revenue and donor funding. This only affects this year."

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## **DEFENSE DEPARTMENT**

### **17. Program Sends Schools Surplus Arms**

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A3 | Ben Kesling, Miguel Bustillo and Tamara Audi

A federal program that has drawn criticism in recent weeks for supplying surplus military gear to local police has also provided high-powered rifles, armored vehicles and other equipment to police at public schools, some of whom were unprepared for what they were getting.

In the wake of school shootings in Newtown, Conn., and elsewhere, some school security departments developed SWAT teams, added weapons and called on the federal government to help supply gear. But now, the program is facing renewed scrutiny from both outside observers and schools using it.

The Los Angeles Unified School District stocked up on grenade launchers, M16 rifles and even a multi-ton armored vehicle from the program. But the district is getting rid of the grenade launchers, which it never intended to use to launch grenades or use in a school setting, said Steven Zipperman, chief of the Los Angeles Schools Police Department. The launchers, received in 2001, might have helped other police in the county disperse crowds by shooting rubber munitions, he said.

But the district never used them, and the technology is outdated, said Mr. Zipperman.

In July, the district received a massive MRAP armored vehicle. Mr. Zipperman said his department thought it could be useful for evacuations and to save lives in a "sustained incident."

But the district is considering dumping the MRAP as well, in part because of its unwieldiness, but also after media and community members began asking questions about why the district had such a vehicle.

"We have to balance the need for a vehicle that can save lives and what's best for our department, with what perception is and what community expectations are," Mr. Zipperman said.

In Texas, near the Mexican border, the sprawling Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District has 34,700 students and operates its own SWAT team, thanks in part to military gear it received in recent years from the federal program. The gear included two Humvees and a cargo truck, as well as power generators, said district Police Chief Ricardo Perez.

The Humvees, he said, are helpful because they can travel off road and quickly reach remote elementary schools surrounded by ranch land, but the chief said they haven't been used to stop a crime or threat to schools. The 12-member SWAT team, in fact, hasn't dealt with a school shooting or any other major incident, he said.

"We just want to be prepared for the kind of things that have happened elsewhere in the country," said Mr. Perez.

The weapons are given to schools through the 1033 Program, created by Congress in the early 1990s to allow law-enforcement agencies to obtain excess Defense Department supplies. The program has transferred \$5.1 billion in items, including \$4.5 million worth in 2013.

Among recipients are more than a dozen school police departments, according to a spreadsheet from the Defense Logistics Agency, which runs the program. But the list excludes districts that received only "tactical" gear such as weapons, as opposed to other types of supplies. That means the list likely understates the number of districts that participated.

Images of police toting military-style rifles and using armored vehicles on the streets of Ferguson, Mo., captured the nation's attention in August in the days after a white police officer shot and killed an unarmed black teenager. Officers wearing combat fatigues confronted peaceful protesters -- and clashed with violent looters and rioters -- prompting questions about the appropriateness of the police response. The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee held a hearing last week to debate the wisdom of the 1033 Program.

Now, some say the Defense Department should stop supplying schools with weapons. The NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and Texas Appleseed, two civil-rights advocates, wrote an open letter signed by nearly two dozen other groups calling on an end to the program.

"Adding the presence of military-grade weapons to school climates that have become increasingly hostile due to their overreliance on police to handle routine student discipline can only exacerbate existing tensions," the letter said.

A spokeswoman for the Defense Logistics Agency said in a statement that 95% of the equipment provided to law-enforcement agencies through the program isn't weapons, and less than 1% is tactical vehicles. She said "each state is visited biannually for a program compliance review to further look at records, property and usage."

At the Granite School District in Salt Lake County, Utah, spokesman Ben Horsley said the security department carefully thought out its request for a handful of M16 rifles. He said he understood concerns people have about the military-style weapons, but added they were needed. "Adam Lanza had one of these when he stormed Sandy Hook," he said.

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## **18. Pentagon aims to stop next Edward Snowden**

Politico.com, Sept. 17 | Joseph Marks

The next Edward Snowden may find it more difficult to leak government secrets.

The Pentagon plans to issue new rules in the coming months requiring certain contractors that work with classified government networks to monitor what employees are doing in those systems.

Information about employees' browsing on those networks will be combined with data analysis tools to spot suspicious behavior such as a Middle East analyst rooting around in intelligence documents related to China or Russia or an employee accessing documents at unusual hours.

The new monitoring regime is designed to give contractors early warnings that one of their employees may be stealing classified information either to leak it to the public as Snowden and Pvt. Chelsea Manning did or to pass it to a foreign government.

The affected contractors will be required to sign forms acknowledging their browsing on classified networks is subject to monitoring and that records of that browsing could be used against them in a criminal trial or administrative action, said Defense Department spokeswoman Navy Cmdr. Amy Derrick-Frost. The networks will also feature banners that warn all browsing is subject to monitoring, and contractors will be required to hold annual training on insider threat awareness, she said.

The new requirements will affect a relatively small number of contractors that have access to classified government networks on their premises. Those contractors are certified by DOD to have classified spaces, known as sensitive compartmented information facilities, or SCIFs, in their offices. SCIFs restrict usage of cellphones, wireless Internet or anything else that might give a foreign government a digital entry point.

Contractors whose employees have security clearances but don't access classified information outside government facilities will also be required to establish insider threat programs under the new rules, Derrick-Frost said. Those programs will be required to "gather, integrate and report relevant and available information indicative of a potential or actual insider threat," she said.

There's been little pushback from contractors briefed on the proposed changes. Such firms say they know a security clearance requires an extra level of scrutiny, though some have voiced concern that the new rules could favor larger companies that have more financial resources to implement them.

The new requirements are part of a series of updates to the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual, or NISPOM, the official guidebook for federal contractors' handling of classified information — which is awaiting final approval from the Defense Security Service, a division of DOD.

The service has been briefing industry groups for about 10 months on the NISPOM requirements. They are based on President Barack Obama's 2011 executive order, which was aimed at improving insider threat protection following Manning's leak of diplomatic cables to WikiLeaks, as well as provisions in the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act.

DOD plans to publish the final version of the new rules before the end of this year, according to Derrick-Frost. After that, contractors will have six months to set up the new programs.

In the private sector, sophisticated insider threat programs employed by large companies often extend beyond basic network monitoring to include evaluating other behavior such as when people enter and leave the office, when they enter classified areas and how they move through the building, said Mike Gelles, a director at Deloitte Consulting and a former chief psychologist for the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

There's been no discussion about subjecting cleared U.S. contractors to what's called "continuous evaluation," a nascent program promoted by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence that involves scanning public records such as divorce, arrest and credit records to pinpoint employees under stress who might be considering leaking documents for self-aggrandizement or profit, contractors said.

Continuous evaluation systems are most often deployed at top financial firms and have also been piloted in the U.S. Army. ODNI officials plan to have roughly 5 percent of the intelligence community's most highly cleared employees subject to continuous evaluation by the close of 2015, as a supplement to the process of reissuing security clearances, which happens every five or 10 years.

Many larger contractors have already implemented insider threat programs or are in the process of building them or acquiring the technology. That's partly because companies want to be ahead of the curve when requirements come out. It's also because companies don't want their reputations to be tarnished by employing the next Snowden.

"I do believe strongly that many of them are doing this because they want to position themselves to be in compliance with any requirements that may come down," Gelles said. "At the same time, they want to be in a position to protect their assets and their reputation."

They also want to keep up with the state of the industry.

"It's very similar to what happened when cybersecurity became cybersecurity," said Mike Miller, chief operating officer at Tanager, a cybersecurity and insider threat mission integrator. "Everyone realized, 'Hey, we're getting hacked,' and executive orders were put in place and guidelines. The government locked stuff down and behind that, industry did the same thing. It's a similar path."

The contractor Lockheed Martin has begun using its big data analysis tool LM Wisdom to track insider threats on its own networks and is marketing the tool to other contractors and companies. When it's pointed at the outside world, Lockheed has used LM Wisdom to predict which governments were most likely to be overthrown during the Arab Spring and which hospital patients are most likely to develop sepsis.

When the tool is tasked with tracking insider threats, it's basically a matter of throwing different data sets at it, said Jason O'Connor, vice president of analysis in the contractor's defense and intelligence solutions practice.

"It's the same technology, the same tool we use for those other missions," O'Connor said. "It's the ability to sift through data and apply advanced algorithms and mathematics to come up with very specific recommendations for analysts. You can apply that to the insider threat world or the social stability world or the medical world. ... When it comes to insider threats, we're able to get down to a numerical score that says where there might be problems."

Raytheon offers another insider threat tracking product called SureView.

Many smaller companies are biding their time because they don't have the financial wiggle room to launch programs unless it's an industry-wide requirement.

One benefit of mandating that contractors have insider threat programs is it will essentially "raise all boats to the same level" so smaller contractors know their competitors are expending the same startup money, said Tom

Mahlik, a director of global security services at the MITRE Corp. and a former FBI section chief and NCIS special agent.

Some are still wondering, though, whether the requirements will be one-size-fits-all or if they'll leave more leeway for smaller companies that can't rely on the same economies of scale, contractors said.

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### **19. Pentagon rules target Hollywood leaks**

TheHill.com, Sept. 16 | Tim Devaney

The fallout over the production of Zero Dark Thirty, a movie that depicted the hunt for Osama bin Laden, may be catching up to the Pentagon.

The Department of Defense said Tuesday it is looking to crack down on soldiers who act in or provide filmmakers with classified information about their operations without permission.

New rules would require soldiers to get permission from the DOD before taking part in or divulging sensitive details about military operations to filmmakers. These rules would apply not only to feature films like Zero Dark Thirty and Act of Valor, but also television programs, documentaries, and even computer and video games, the Pentagon said.

"This rule addresses how military personnel may appear in entertainment media," the Pentagon wrote. "This rule requires the written permission of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (or his/her designee) in order for active duty military personnel to serve as actors in significant roles and in roles beyond the scope of their normal duties."

This comes after actual Navy SEALs were chosen to star in Act of Valor, another popular military film.

It also follows a 2012 report from the Pentagon's inspector general, which found Michael Vickers, under secretary of defense for intelligence, tried to help the Zero Dark Thirty filmmakers reach out to members of SEAL Team Six for information for the movie.

These revelations started a controversy in Washington that led to Republicans accusing the Obama administration of putting soldiers lives in danger for a publicity stunt.

But the proposed rules from the DOD aim to clamp down on such intelligence leaks to Hollywood, the Pentagon said.

The public has 60 days to comment on the rules.

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## **AIR FORCE**

### **20. SpaceX must meet high standard to get rocket certified – U.S. officials**

Reuters, Sept. 16 | Andrea Shalal

WASHINGTON -- Senior U.S. Air Force officials on Tuesday said they favored competition for military rocket launches, but the Air Force needed to stick to its high standards in certifying the Falcon 9 rocket, built by privately-held Space Exploration Technologies.

SpaceX is working through a detailed certification process with the Air Force for its Falcon 9 satellite so it can compete with United Launch Alliance (ULA), a joint venture of Boeing Co and Lockheed Martin Corp, to launch a National Reconnaissance Office spy satellite and other satellites.

The company has also sued the Air Force to get a larger share of the 36 launches now promised to ULA.

The issue has taken on new urgency this year after Russia's actions in Ukraine raised concerns about ULA's reliance on Russian-built RD-180 rocket engines for its Atlas 5 rockets.

Air Force officials underscored their determination to end U.S. reliance on the Russian engines, and said they would shape an acquisition strategy in coming months after hearing back from industry about possible solutions in coming days.

"The objective is to get off of the reliance on the RD-180 as soon as practicable," Air Force Secretary Deborah James told reporters at the annual Air Force Association conference.

Air Force officials say one key step is to inject competition into the monopoly now held by ULA.

"Like every American, I love competition ... I root for SpaceX to come into the competition," General John Hyten, commander of Air Force Space Command, told the annual Air Force Association conference. But he also said the United States could not afford to lose any satellite given the fragile state of most systems, outside of the Global Positioning System satellites.

"First do no harm, is my view on this. Then get to competition as fast as we can," Air Force Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh told reporters at the conference.

The U.S. military lost the ability to put satellites in space after the Challenger space shuttle exploded in the 1980s, Hyten said, and again in the late 1990s after a series of other rocket failures. Those problems resulted in "huge voids" in U.S. military capabilities, he said, and the military could not afford to put itself in that position once again.

"The certification of SpaceX, hopefully by Dec. 1, is a big event. But if they're not ready on Dec. 1, we have to stand up and say that, and that's going to be difficult because I want competition," Hyten said.

"My fundamental requirement as the commander of Air Force Space Command ... is to make sure that the United States has access to space, assured, all the time. And that means it has to work every time," Hyten said.

Welsh said SpaceX had been launching rockets, but was behind on some key engineering and design reviews required for the Air Force certification. "It's a very deliberate process," he said.

The comments about the need for 100-percent launch success follow last month's explosion of a SpaceX test rocket. The incident raised concerns among U.S. officials, although the Air Force has declined comment on the consequences of the explosion for the certification process.

The botched test flight involved a Falcon rocket demonstration vehicle known as Falcon 9R that was outfitted with three engines and a prototype landing system the company had been developing to fly its rockets back to the launch site for refurbishment and reuse.

A government official said the explosion could slow the ongoing U.S. certification process because the reason needed to be understood. The destroyed rocket was different than the Falcon 9, but involved the same basic engine, the official said.

NASA on Tuesday awarded both Boeing and SpaceX separate contracts to build commercially owned and operated "space taxis" to fly astronauts to the International Space Station, ending U.S. dependence on Russia for rides.

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## NAVY

### **21. A toll too much to bear**

#### *Emotions still raw on the first anniversary of the Navy Yard shooting*

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. B1 | Deneen L. Brown and Julie Zauzmer

More than 2,000 people, including top Navy officials and families still in mourning, gathered early Tuesday at the Washington Navy Yard to mark the first anniversary of the shooting rampage that killed 12 people inside Building 197.

Family members of the victims were visibly distraught as they took seats reserved for them on the grass lawn of the sprawling complex in Southeast Washington. Priscilla Daniels, who lost her husband, Arthur, in the shooting after 30 years of marriage, laid her head on the shoulder of a uniformed officer as a bugle horn blew in the background.

During the memorial service, Vice Adm. William Hilarides, commander of Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), read the name of each person who died on the morning of Sept. 16, 2013, followed each time by a toll of a bell.

When he finished, there was a long moment of silence. Some mourners wiped tears.

Douglass Gaarde, 64, the husband of slain financial analyst Kathleen Nark Gaarde, said he was thinking about the timing of the ceremony, which began at 8 a.m.

"It occurred during the same half-hour of the tragedy," Gaarde said. "When it started a year ago, she was alive. By the time the ceremony ended, she was gone."

Hilarides paid tribute to those who died at the hands of gunman Aaron Alexis. They were friends and co-workers, sons and daughters, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters. "We rededicate ourselves to their memory," he said.

Navy Secretary Ray Mabus lauded the dedication of those lost. "We know their lives were defined by not how they died, but how they lived," he told the crowd, adding, "the horrific acts of a mad man cannot break the spirit of our Navy family."

Bobbe Frasier, the brother of Sylvia Frasier, wore a gray sweatshirt to the ceremony that featured a photo of his 53-year-old sister and the words, "Legacy of Love."

Bobbe Frasier said the family got the shirts made last year in October to mourn Sylvia, who worked as a NAVSEA network security administrator.

The Frasier family has deep ties to the Navy, Bobbe Frasier said. "Sylvia, her sisters and I were born in the Navy and reared in the Navy. Our father was in the Navy 24 years."

Sylvia's co-workers have been a source of comfort. "The outpouring of love from Sylvia's colleagues and friends has been tremendous," he said.

Many Navy Yard workers are still suffering from post-traumatic stress from the shooting, when hundreds fled gunshots and hid behind desks as Alexis, a 34-year-old government contractor, roamed hallways, stairwells and cubicles with a Remington 870 shotgun. Alexis was fatally shot by police that morning.

"Demonstrated that day was not just unbelievable evil, but also incredible bravery and selflessness," Hilarides said in a statement released before the ceremony.

After the tragedy, even those traumatized continued their mission of supporting the Navy's fleet, he noted. NAVSEA employees and contractors were relocated temporarily to a former Coast Guard facility in the Buzzard Point neighborhood of Southwest Washington.

Over the past year, Building 197 has undergone a \$6.4 million renovation. In February, NAVSEA employees will begin to move back into a redesigned building, said Rory O'Connor, director of the office of corporate communication at NAVSEA.

Hilarides said the move back will mark a huge step in the recovery of people who worked there.

On Tuesday, the focus was on those who lost their lives last September. The 12 people killed were: Michael Arnold, Martin Bodrog, Arthur Daniels Sr., Frasier, Gaarde, John Johnson, Mary Knight, Frank Kohler, Vishnu Pandit, Kenneth Proctor Sr., Gerald Read and Richard Ridgell.

Arthur Daniels, 17, the son of slain handyman Daniels Sr., clutched his mother's hand as they arrived for the ceremony, and Priscilla Daniels's knees started to buckle.

The family is still trying to heal from the loss. His father, Daniels said, was "a really good person. I miss him every day."

At a public memorial ceremony Tuesday evening, Mayor Vincent C. Gray spoke about the need for stricter gun control laws and noted that Alexis obtained his gun legally despite a history of mental illness.

"Our country is drowning in a sea of guns," Gray said at the ceremony at Canal Park, near the Navy Yard. "Senseless gun violence like this is a fact of life here in the nation's capital and in the nation's big cities. It is a fact of life that we need to stop accepting."

Other speakers focused on commemorating the victims, community members and institutions that responded to the tragedy.

"Although a year has passed . . . the emotion, the remembrance of those folks is always close to the surface," Hilarides said.

Hilarides left the ceremony early - he was headed to have dinner with the 12 people with whom he spent the tense hours of the shooting on lockdown. They plan to gather to remember together every Sept. 16.

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## **INTELLIGENCE**

### **22. U.S. NSA chief says monitoring tech-savvy Islamic State**

Reuters, Sept. 16 | Doina Chiacu

WASHINGTON -- As U.S. military leaders outlined their strategy before Congress to fight Islamic State militants on the battlefield, the National Security Agency chief said on Tuesday he was watching the media-savvy group's cyber capabilities.

Asked whether the Sunni Muslim group was planning cyber attacks on U.S. interests, Admiral Mike Rogers said he could not discuss specifics of the organization's technical capabilities.

"We need to assume that there will be a cyber dimension increasingly in almost any scenario that we're dealing with," Rogers said at a cybersecurity conference in Washington.

"Counterterrorism is no different. Clearly, ISIL has been very aggressive in the use of media, in the use of technology, in the use of the Internet. It's something I'm watching," he said, using an acronym for the group.

Islamic State, which controls large swaths of Iraq and Syria, has posted carefully choreographed beheading videos online, trumpeted its violent acts on Twitter and used social media to recruit foreign Islamists to the fight.

"Its public messaging and social media is as slick and as effective as any I've ever seen from a terrorist organization," Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson told the Council on Foreign Relations in New York last week.

The group's capabilities beyond using YouTube and Facebook are less clear.

Cybersecurity expert James Lewis of the Center for Strategic and International Studies said he did not think Islamic State posed any immediate cyber threat to American interests.

"They'd need a connection to the Syrians, Iranians or the Russians, and that's unlikely to happen," Lewis said. "They're also nuts and cyber doesn't scratch the itch."

While there may be no imminent or specific cyber threat from Islamic State, there is a wide-ranging intent to damage the West, a congressional aide said. Different jihadist groups have talked about launching cyber attacks and it may be just a matter of time before they find someone capable of doing it, the aide said on condition of anonymity.

Rogers, speaking generally on how cybersecurity threats are proliferating across all aspects of American life, said: "There is nothing but increased activity out there."

As Pentagon officials told Congress on Tuesday they were preparing for a longer-term campaign against Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, Rogers said cyber defense was a long-haul effort.

The U.S. Cyber Command he leads hopes to have 6,200 cyber employees by 2016 to detect and deflect such threats, and Rogers urged greater cooperation on cybersecurity between government, business and industry.

"There are a lot of groups out there - individuals, nation-states - who feel that this is an area worth investing in, because it achieves positive outcomes for them if they can penetrate systems," Rogers said at the Billington Cybersecurity Summit.

"This is not a small problem and it's not one that's going to go away."

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## SEXUAL ASSAULT

### 23. IG: Sexual assault investigators should improve methods

MilitaryTimes.com, Sept. 16 | Andrew Tilghman

Military investigators responding to reports of sexual assaults do not always follow the widely accepted standards set by civilian police agencies, according to a new Pentagon Inspector General's report.

The IG's probe began almost three years ago, in November 2011, and focused on how sexual assault allegations are handled by the three military investigative agencies, the Army's Criminal Investigation Command, known as CID, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

The report comes after months of internal controversy over the final report. The service's criminal investigations divisions leveled harsh criticism at the IG and prompted the IG to remove some elements from a draft version and scale back the scope of the final report, according to the report.

The final draft concluded that the military investigators adhere to most of the standards outlined by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. But the IG cited several exceptions, which included:

- The Army's CID and the Navy's NCIS should consider changing their policies to encourage sexual assault investigators to proceed with a thorough investigation regardless of whether they obtain laboratory findings.
- The NCIS should make sure that support personnel advise victims against bathing or urinating to ensure the potential for reliable laboratory samples.

- The NCIS should clarify protocols for cases that involve a victim's illegal substance abuse or underage drinking to ensure that the information is not used to discredit the victim or discourage reporting.
- The Air Force's OSI should advise investigators to "ask victims to explain what they remember and how they felt" during and after the assault.
- The OSI should encourage investigators to routinely consider whether stalking charges apply in each case because surveillance behavior is a common precursor to sexual assaults.
- The NCIS should create a timeline for inclusion in official reports to document the victim's trauma or post-assault behavior, including weight gain or loss, changes in daily routines, etc.
- The NCIS should advise investigators, in cases where a victim requests to have a support person such as a spouse or parent present during questioning, to look for signs of hesitation from the victim or signs of controlling or intimidating behavior by the support person.

The CID criticized the initial draft of the report completed in June, saying it "failed to meet the accuracy standard."

The IG's office acknowledged that "we revised the report as appropriate to ensure data accuracy, relevance, and objectivity."

In one specific example, the initial draft called out NCIS for not adhering to an IACP's recommendation to videotape victims' statements. But NCIS said that misstated the IACP's views on the subject. The IG removed that element from the report after checking with the IACP and determining that the civilian association "takes a more neutral view of videotaping victim interviews."

In the final report, the IG dropped dozens of IACP-recommended actions from its evaluation of the military investigative agencies, reducing the total number of actions cited from 165 to 92, according to the report.

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## NOTABLE COMMENTARY

### 24. The Slippery Slope Begins

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A26 | Editorial

A week ago, President Obama stood before the American people and promised that the expanding fight against the Islamic State -- a vicious Sunni militant group known as ISIS or ISIL that is terrorizing parts of Iraq and Syria -- would not mean a commitment of American ground troops. "As I have said before, these American forces will not have a combat mission," he said.

On Tuesday, Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had a very different message when he testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee. "If we reach the point where I believe our advisers should accompany Iraqi troops on attacks against specific ISIL targets, I'll recommend that to the president," he said, citing a potential attempt to retake the strategic important Iraqi city of Mosul as an example.

There is no way to read this other than as a reversal from the firm commitment Mr. Obama made not to immerse the country in another endless ground war in the Middle East.

Even though General Dempsey's remarks were conditional, the Obama administration has turned on a dime in record time and opened the door to deeper, more costly American involvement even before the strategy is fully sketched out. And this is happening without Congress ever giving Mr. Obama the authority to wage war.

It's impossible to believe that General Dempsey was speaking just for himself, though administration officials said his remarks were not cleared by the White House. His initial comments were contained in written testimony, so they would have gone through a review process, at least by Pentagon officials, and scrubbed in advance for errors and misstatements.

He reinforced his position under questioning by members of the Senate committee. American forces in Iraq "are not participating in direct combat. There is no intention for them to do so," he said, but "I've mentioned, though, that if I found that circumstance evolving, I would, of course, change my recommendation."

So what changed in the last week? Has there been some new intelligence assessment about the Islamic State's strengths that requires an urgent shift in policy? Has the administration run into difficulty persuading Arab countries and others to join its mission, which cannot succeed without their support? Or was General Dempsey leaving his options open to a ground war, as military leaders like to do, despite what Mr. Obama has promised?

These possibilities are highly disturbing, and they certainly do not provide any basis for considering a move toward a ground war.

White House officials insisted after General Dempsey's testimony that there is no change in Mr. Obama's policy. The best proof of that would be for Mr. Obama to reassert his pledge and stick to it.

If there is any lesson to be taken from recent military conflicts, it is how easily the country can slip into an intractable war, with consequences that cannot be fully foreseen, and the fight against the Islamic State is more complicated and multidimensional than most.

The international coalition that Mr. Obama says is crucial to his plan is just being formed. While there have been positive steps toward a new government in Iraq, the positions of defense and interiors ministers remain unfilled as politicians continue to fight for power. Meanwhile, American-led training of forces in Iraq and Syria (the so-called moderate opposition) that are supposed to be central to the military campaign will take months, and congressional approval of the \$500 million that Mr. Obama has requested for training and equipping Syrian rebels is far from certain.

The alarming uncertainty that General Dempsey has injected into the still evolving military strategy makes it even more important that Congress carry out its constitutional duty and debate and vote on the new mission in Iraq and Syria.

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## **25. The Syria Campaign**

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 17, Pg. A14 | Editorial

American bombs aren't yet falling on Syria, but on Tuesday Chuck Hagel suggested they soon will. "This plan includes targeted actions against ISIL safe havens in Syria, including its command and control, logistics capabilities and infrastructure," the Secretary of Defense told the Senate. Martin Dempsey, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, added that the attacks "will be persistent and sustainable."

Let's hope so, because no campaign to destroy the Islamic State can succeed without waging a campaign on both sides of an Iraqi-Syrian border that the terrorist group long ago erased in the name of its caliphate. The Islamic State's capital is in the Syrian city of Raqqa, which it has held for over a year. It has recently scored major military victories against Bashar Assad's regime and moderate rebels of the Free Syrian Army (FSA), particularly in the embattled city of Aleppo.

Those ISIS victories are a reminder that time isn't on America's side in this fight, even as the Administration contemplates a long war. That's especially true if President Obama wants to avoid helping the Assad regime and its allies in Hezbollah and Iran. Mr. Obama is three years late in making a serious attempt to train and equip the FSA. Now that he's at last publicly promised U.S. support, he needs a military strategy that helps them win.

Attacking the Islamic State advances that goal, and not only because of its military gains against the FSA. As the Journal reported Tuesday in an online video of life in Raqqa, the Islamic State rules in totalitarian fashion, complete with public crucifixions. The brutality has created conditions similar to those that preceded the Sunni Awakening in Iraq in 2007 -- the revolt by ordinary Sunnis and their tribal leaders in Anbar province against al Qaeda.

The awakening would not have succeeded without the aid of U.S. forces, which were available in adequate numbers thanks to President Bush's surge. Nothing similar can happen now because of President Obama's short-sighted pledge to put no U.S. troops on the ground.

But a devastating air campaign against the Islamic State might at least weaken the group sufficiently to embolden a revolt and send new recruits to the FSA. The model here is the air cover NATO gave to Kosovars as they fought Serbian aggressors in 1999 in the Balkans.

Defeating the Islamic State will also require attacks on the Assad regime. Sunnis will not support the campaign against Islamic State if they think our air strikes are intended to help the regime in Damascus and its Shiite allies in Beirut and Tehran.

Assad had previously helped the Islamic State by releasing its fighters from his prisons and supplying it with oil in order to isolate the FSA and consolidate his political base among Syria's Alawites and Christians. Yet now he claims he is the only plausible alternative to the Islamic State. The U.S. will have to ensure that the Islamic State's losses benefit the FSA and not Assad.

The best way to start would be for the U.S. to end the siege of Aleppo, where FSA forces are trapped both by the Islamic State and Assad's forces. Saving the city -- Syria's largest -- would end a humanitarian calamity and provide a major psychological boost to the FSA.

Sooner rather than later the U.S. will also have to do what Mr. Obama wanted to do a year ago and bomb Assad's airfields. His air force consists mainly of training aircraft dropping primitive -- but devastating -- munitions, some of them loaded with chlorine gas. Air power is one of his principle advantages over the FSA, and removing it would make Assad more likely to negotiate with the FSA rather than risk falling to Islamic State.

Mr. Obama first promised to train and arm the FSA a year ago, but that effort was microscopic and half-hearted. That helps explain why neighboring Arab states like Jordan abandoned the effort or began aiding jihadist groups instead. They will help now only if they believe Mr. Obama is serious.

Some conservatives are criticizing any intervention in Syria, but House Speaker John Boehner is right to support Mr. Obama's funding requests, no matter GOP doubts about Mr. Obama's strategy and resolve. The Republicans who opposed Mr. Obama's short-living plan to intervene in Syria a year ago have been discredited by events. That walk-back gave Islamic State time to expand and take more territory. The political lesson is that the GOP should not be the midwife for Mr. Obama's weakness, much less as a pretext for his inaction. In foreign policy the best politics is to support the right policy.

The U.S. is taking sides in Iraq and Syria against two entrenched enemies of American interests. Our key allies are the Kurds, the parts of the Iraqi military that aren't dominated by Iran's militia, and the moderate Sunnis in Syria and Iraq. They must win on the ground to defeat ISIS. Early action in Syria might have spared us this predicament, but that's all the more reason to act decisively now.

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## **26. Syria's choking war**

### ***Has a horror from long ago returned?***

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A16 | Editorial

The killing winds came over the trenches at Ypres, Belgium, in the evening of April 22, 1915, carrying chlorine gas, greenish clouds that unleashed warfare with chemical weapons. It inspired fear and terror, and eventually led to international treaties to prohibit the use and manufacture of chemical weapons for war, including the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and the Chemical Weapons Convention of 1993.

This bit of history underscores why an attack on three villages in northern Syria earlier this year was so heinous. The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), created to enforce the 1993 treaty, says the villages of Talmanes, Al Tamanah and Kafr Zeta were the target of chlorine attacks, a repeat of the horrors of World War I in the 21st century.

Chlorine is a choking agent that injures the respiratory tract and can kill. An industrial chemical, it is not among those specifically banned, but the use of any toxic chemical - including chlorine - to kill or harm violates the convention and international law. The OPCW said its fact-finding mission concluded with "a high degree of confidence that chlorine, either pure or in mixture, is the toxic chemical in question" used against the villages. This was based on interviews with victims, physicians, first-responders and eyewitnesses, although the fact-finding effort was thwarted trying to visit the scene.

The group did not say in its Sept. 10 announcement who targeted the villages with chlorine, but the results of the investigation, which have not been made public in detail, are said to point directly at the regime of President Bashar al-Assad, which has been battling rebels in a civil war that has already killed more than 190,000 people and caused 2.5 million to flee to neighboring countries. If the Assad forces did use the deadly gases, it is another black mark against a ruler who used sarin, a poison gas, in an August 2013 attack at Ghouta that killed more than 1,000 people.

After the horrors of Ghouta became known, the United States and others demanded that Syria demilitarize its chemical weapons stockpile. In an operation that was ambitious and carried out despite fierce fighting on the ground, Syria relinquished its most lethal chemical weapons, and the OPCW reported in August that 94 percent of Syria's declared stockpile has been destroyed, much of it carried and neutralized aboard a U.S. vessel, the Cape Ray.

But the story of Syria's chemical nightmare is not yet over. The use of chlorine serves to remind of Mr. Assad's brutality and stands as another good reason the United States can never consider allying with the regime in Damascus against the reprehensible rebel forces of the Islamic State. Syria has yet to destroy 12 production facilities, hangars and tunnels, and there are volume discrepancies and omissions in its declarations. Syria must come clean about these, agree to the permanent destruction of the facilities and reveal the truth about who used a choking weapon of World War I in the modern age.

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## **27. The power to make war**

### ***Congress needs to do its duty and vote on Obama's plan to attack Islamic State***

Los Angeles Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A10 | Editorial

In announcing last week that he would seek to "degrade, and ultimately destroy" Islamic State, President Obama asserted that, while he welcomed congressional support, he already possessed the legal authority to use military force against the group in Iraq, Syria and elsewhere. That's a dangerous assertion of authority in which Congress must not acquiesce.

No one can deny that the campaign against Islamic State, which already has involved airstrikes on the group's positions in Iraq, represents a new undertaking for the United States. Yet in offering legal justification for this escalation, the president's advisors are citing two congressional enactments more than a decade old that arose from vastly different circumstances.

One is the post-Sept. 11 Authorization for Use of Military Force, which empowered the president to "use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001." Even if one reads this language as applying to forces "associated" with Al Qaeda, the connection with Islamic State is tenuous. True, it's an offshoot of a group that called itself Al Qaeda in Iraq, but it has been repudiated by Al Qaeda's central leadership.

As an "alternative statutory authority," a senior administration official pointed to the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force "against the continuing threat posed by Iraq." That document was a prelude to the invasion of Iraq and the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. It's an even flimsier authority for U.S. airstrikes in Iraq and Syria than the 2001 AUMF.

We agree that Islamic State is a threat to U.S. interests in the Middle East and particularly to the stability of Iraq, and its savagery was appallingly evident in its beheading of two American journalists and a British aid worker. Whether the threat it poses justifies the major escalation Obama has announced -- especially airstrikes in Syria -- is another question, one that Congress needs to confront before exercising its constitutional authority to declare war (and AUMFs are declarations of war by another name).

This week, Rep. Adam B. Schiff (D-Burbank) introduced a measure that would authorize the president to use "all necessary and appropriate force" against Islamic State within the territory of Iraq and Syria but would prohibit the deployment of U.S. ground forces. The authorization would expire after 18 months. Because it essentially codifies Obama's battle plan, the Schiff bill offers Congress an opportunity to scrutinize the president's case for war and then do its duty. Abstaining is not an option.

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## **28. Secret steps into combat**

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A17 | David Ignatius

Here's a national-security riddle: How can President Obama provide limited military support on the ground to help "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State without formally violating his pledge not to send U.S. combat troops? The answer may lie in the legal alchemy known as "Title 50."

Title 50 of the U.S. Code regulates the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency. An often-cited passage is Section 413(b), which deals with presidential approval and reporting of "covert actions." In essence, this statute gives the president authority, with a proper "finding," to send U.S. Special Operations forces on paramilitary operations, under the command of the CIA. The best-known example was the 2011 raid on Abbottabad, Pakistan, that killed Osama bin Laden.

Talking with U.S. and foreign military experts over the past week, I've heard two consistent themes: First, the campaign against the Islamic State will require close-in U.S. training and assistance for ground forces, in addition to U.S. air power; and, second, the best way to provide this assistance may be under the command of the Ground Branch of the CIA's Special Activities Division, which traditionally oversees such paramilitary operations.

There are some obvious drawbacks with this approach: These "special activities" may be called covert, but their provenance will be obvious, especially to the enemy; they will build irregular forces in Iraq and Syria that may subvert those countries' return to a stable, transparent system of governance and military operations; and history tells us (from Vietnam to Central America to the Middle East) that black operations, outside normal military channels, can get ugly - opening a back door to torture, rendition and assassination. That's why clear guidelines and congressional oversight would be necessary.

Though these paramilitary operations are rarely discussed, the United States has extensive experience with them, especially in Iraq and other areas of the Middle East. The 2001 campaign to topple the Taliban in Afghanistan was led by the CIA, using teams of Special Operations forces to mobilize fighters from the Northern Alliance. In 2002, before the invasion of Iraq, Kurdish special forces were brought to a base in the Western United States and trained in insurgency tactics. They conducted fierce attacks as the war was beginning.

To undermine the Islamic State, the United States and its allies must mobilize Sunni tribal fighters. The CIA and the U.S. military have considerable experience here, painfully learned from their efforts to combat the Sunni insurgency that arose after the 2003 Iraq invasion. The agency mobilized Sunni commandos known as the UTPs; the initials stood for "Under the Table Program." The head of Iraqi intelligence, Gen. Mohammed Shahwani, also recruited an irregular Sunni force, which came to be known as the "Shahwani Brigades." These Sunni commandos fought with U.S. Marines in the battle of Fallujah in late 2004.

The Islamic State's commanders know that these Sunni fighters pose a potent threat. Before moving into northern Iraq in the spring to prepare their breakout offensive in Mosul, they assassinated former Republican Guard officers who had worked with the United States. But that only deepened many Sunnis' secret hatred of the jihadists.

Gen. John Allen, the retired Marine tapped as Obama's special envoy in combating the Islamic State, brings several advantages. He coordinated contacts with Sunni tribal leaders in Anbar during the Sunni Awakening, which crushed the insurgency there. He was also one of the most effective U.S. commanders in Afghanistan. In recent weeks, he has been contacted by Iraqi and Syrian Sunni leaders who want U.S. help.

Iraqis and Syrians tell me that U.S. Special Operations forces will be decisive in training the Sunni fighters who can carry the battle into the streets of Mosul, Fallujah and Raqqah. Obama must decide whether this mission is better performed overtly or covertly - but the Americans who will be doing the training will be the same warriors, drawn from such units as the Army's 5th Special Forces Group.

The decisive issue is whether these U.S. special forces should be embedded with the Iraqi and Syrian forces they train - and accompany them into battle, where they can coordinate tactics and call in air support. Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in congressional testimony Tuesday that "where I believe our advisers should accompany Iraqi troops on attacks against specific [Islamic State] targets, I'll recommend that to the president."

Let's be honest: U.S. boots are already on the ground, and more are coming. The question is whether Obama will decide to say so publicly, or remain in his preferred role as covert commander in chief.

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## **29. An Urgent Campaign Against Ebola**

New York Times, Sept. 17, Pg. A26 | Editorial

President Obama's announcement of a more aggressive campaign against the Ebola outbreak in West Africa on Tuesday shows the administration is starting to recognize the severity of the crisis in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The question now is whether ramped-up medical assistance from the United States and other countries will arrive fast enough to change the course of the rapidly expanding epidemic.

It was scary enough when the World Health Organization projected that 20,000 people might be infected within the next six to nine months. Now there are credible projections that the outbreak could last a year to 18 months and infect hundreds of thousands of people before it is brought under control, as Denise Grady reported in *The Times* on Saturday. The epidemic has been growing exponentially in Liberia, the hardest-hit country, with the number of new cases almost doubling from one recent week to the next. The only thing that could interrupt that trend would be a more effective public health effort to slow the spread of the virus.

On Tuesday, senior United Nations health officials called for a major surge in international support that could cost \$1 billion, of which only 30 percent has been pledged. They said the number of infections could be kept in the tens of thousands provided there is a much faster escalation of international assistance.

Mr. Obama's initiative, which would primarily focus on Liberia, would substantially increase American spending from its already high level. The Defense Department alone is prepared to devote up to \$1 billion to the cause, according to an administration official. The United States military will establish a joint command center in

Monrovia and send up to 3,000 military personnel to Liberia and Senegal. They will construct up to 17 treatment centers with about 1,700 beds, with the first ones ready in the next several weeks. Military medics will train up to 500 health care workers a week to deliver care safely, starting in a couple weeks. And the American government will also supply 400,000 home-health kits, containing disinfectants, gloves and various supplies to prevent transmission of the virus among family members. That is enough for every person in the most highly infected parts of Liberia.

The American effort looks like the largest, but other nations and organizations are contributing as well. The European Union recently pledged \$180 million to the affected countries. Cuba is sending a team of 165 medical experts to Sierra Leone.

China, which has been notably stingy in contributing aid to past humanitarian crises, says it has sent a laboratory team of 59 to Sierra Leone to help diagnose cases in addition to 115 medical experts already there. Although the W.H.O. welcomed the assistance as "a huge boost, morally and operationally," China, with the world's second-largest economy, can afford to do a lot more.

Russia is sending a small team of specialists with two mobile laboratories to Guinea to diagnose cases, a token gesture at best. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has opened a 60-bed treatment center in Sierra Leone. Meanwhile, Doctors Without Borders continues to provide most of the care in Liberia.

A big concern is how quickly the treatment centers in Liberia can be built. Some experts say 1,000 beds are needed in the next week to contain the disease, a goal that seems well out of reach. All donors will need to hasten their assistance if there's to be any hope of containing an epidemic that is spiraling out of control.

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### **30. Combating Ebola**

*The ramped-up U.S. response to the disease is tardy but welcome*

Washington Post, Sept. 17, Pg. A16 | Editorial

With people dying in the streets of the Liberian capital, President Obama has at last ramped up the U.S. response to the worst outbreak ever of the Ebola virus in West Africa. The fresh surge of support announced Tuesday represents a welcome change of course. No one knows if the package outlined by Mr. Obama at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be sufficient, but at least the United States has started to act like the world's indispensable nation.

Since not enough treatment beds and health-care workers were available in recent months, more infections and deaths are coming. In four nations, the virus has infected at least 4,985 people and killed 2,461, half within the past three weeks. Tens of thousands of people are at risk of death from an illness for which there is no vaccine or cure. Isolation and containment remain the only hope. The World Health Organization says the cost will now top \$1 billion.

Mr. Obama promised to deploy up to 3,000 troops, build 17 treatment centers each with 100 beds, train thousands of health-care workers and provide air logistics, protective gear, health kits and medical experts. Most important, the United States will set up a command-and-control structure, led by a U.S. Army general, to bring direction to the regional effort. The fragile governments of West Africa have crumpled in the face of the outbreak, especially

Liberia, unable to muster enough doctors, coax health-care workers to remain on the job or reassure panicked populations. "This health emergency threatens civil order," declared Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in a letter to Mr. Obama last week.

In February, the United States and 28 other countries, as well as the WHO, announced the Global Health Security Agenda, a smart mixture of plans and policies intended to stop the kind of public health catastrophe that has now occurred. The agenda's goals were "preventing and reducing the likelihood of outbreaks," "detecting threats early" and "rapid, effective response." Doctors Without Borders rang the alarm about Ebola in March. What happened? Why didn't Mr. Obama and his team of seasoned public health officials follow their own agenda? The U.S. response in the early months was not zero but nowhere near enough given the size of the disaster.

What we are witnessing underscores an essential truth often overlooked: National security threats come not only from malevolent countries or groups but also lie in zoonosis, the process of disease transmission from animals to humans. The examples of SARS, the swine flu pandemic, the MERS coronavirus and now Ebola should leave little doubt that prevention, surveillance, detection and rapid response to infectious disease must be taken more seriously than in the past. The tardy response to Ebola ought to prompt deep soul-searching about how not to let it happen again.

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(b)(4),(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 5:33 AM  
**To:** Employment; Alumni; Outreach  
**Subject:** Engine without fuel

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi

I have plans for the engine without fuel for spacecraft Note that without the need for fuel Please note only plans I know that the United States plans for a manned trip to Mars, and I'm not just the United States but also to help humanity For a long time he flew with this engine without fuel Even the engine can cause the attraction due to gravity in space shuttle information I have a better Please note, this plan only Thank you.

(b)(4),(b)(6)

6

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 7:36 AM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** Congratulations - You have been nominated for a Sector Success Award 2014  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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(b)(6)



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Dealfeed International, Unit 10 Barton Marina, Barton under Needwood, Burton upon Trent, Staffs DE13 8AS, UK

(b)(4),(b)(6)

7

**From:** Outreach <Outreach@darpa.mil>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 10:45 AM  
**To:** Outreach

**Cc:** (b)(4),(b)(6)

**Subject:** Public Affairs Morning Report Wednesday, September 17

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good morning,  
Please find today's daily news update below. This message is best viewed as HTML.  
Best,  
DARPA Public Affairs

#### DARPA News

[Reza Ghanadan: DARPA Aims to Create Mathematical Models for Complex Data Analysis](#) (*Executive Gov*) The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency has launched a program to build new computer-based mathematical tools for correlating big data across many scientific disciplines. DARPA said Thursday the agency aims to speed up the process of complex data analysis, insight generation and scientific discovery through the SIMPLEX initiative.

[At MIT, a Robot Cheetah Is Sprinting—And Leaping—Across Campus](#) (*Smithsonian*) On MIT's campus, a predator is leaping over lawns and sprinting down football fields. Researchers there have designed algorithms that allow a robot cheetah to run untethered. In addition to working out the mathematics of a cheetah's movements, a special high-torque-density electric motor enabled the robot, which researchers have been working on for years, to finally stand on its own four legs.

[DARPA's GXV-T Looks Like Something Straight Out of a Video Game](#) (*Armed with Science*) One of the key goals of DARPA's Ground X-Vehicle Technology (GXV-T) program is improving the survivability of ground-based armored fighting vehicles by increasing vehicle agility. Vehicle agility involves the ability to autonomously avoid incoming threats, either by rapidly moving out of the way or reconfiguring the vehicle so incoming threats have a low probability of hitting and penetrating—all without injuring the occupants in the process.

[Darpa jetpack to help soldiers run four-minute miles](#) (*Wired UK*) For many athletes, the four-minute-mile is the holy grail of middle-distance running. Years of dedicated training and diet optimisation are required to push the body fast enough to cover 1,609m in less time than it takes to brew a good pot of Earl Grey. But what if there was a way to avoid all the pain and suffering and get to strap a jetpack on at the same time?

[ElectRX: DARPA's shot at a medical microelectronic revolution](#) (*Neurogadget*) DARPA, ever riding the bleeding edge of technology, has announced a new program focused on designing tiny implanted electronics to treat medical conditions with by stimulating the peripheral nervous system with tiny implanted machines. Coming from the agency that helped create the internet, and has quietly fostered the incredible progress in prosthesis tech over the last decade, there may be reason to get excited.

[US Laser Weapons Inch Closer To Deployment](#) (*Defense World.net*) The US Navy will outfit the USS Ponce, an amphibious vessel with a Laser Weapon System (LaWS) and will begin sea testing in the Persian Gulf later this year heralding an era of practical laser weapons which may ultimately replace short range cannons and missiles.

[Turret flight tests to pave the way for laser weapons on military aircraft](#) (*Gizmag*) High energy laser (HEL) systems have been the subject of military research for decades, but it is only in recent years that the technology has advanced to the point where it is feasible for such systems to be mounted on military ground vehicles and sea vessels.

[Is the U.S. Prepared Legally and Operationally to Protect Its Arctic Interests?](#) (*JD Supra, Opinion piece*) The answer to this question is a resounding “no.” The U.S. is not prepared to protect its interests in the Arctic over the next decade. The primary legal regime that is being relied upon by all members of the Arctic fraternity, the Law of the Sea Convention, has not been adopted by the U.S.

#### Tweets of Interest



**Phys.org Technology**  
@physorg\_tech

Following

[#LockheedMartin](#) conducts flight tests of [#aircraft](#) laser turret for DARPA  
[phy.so/330076988](http://phy.so/330076988) [@lockheedmartin](#)

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Phys.org

Lockheed Martin conducts flight tests of aircraft laser turret for...

Lockheed Martin, in partnership with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) and the University of Notre Dame, has demonstrated the airworthiness of a new beam control turret being developed for the...



**FCW**  
@FCWnow

Following

Soliciting science to connect the dots  
[@DARPA](#) [fcw.com/blogs/the-spec](http://fcw.com/blogs/the-spec) ...



John Carrico, Jr.

@AstrogatorJohn



Follow

These are the spacecraft repair droids  
DARPA is looking for - [space.com/27128-darpa-ro](https://space.com/27128-darpa-ro) ...

Reply Retweet Favorite More

SPACE.com



DARPA Wants to Test Robotic Satellite Repair Droids in Orbit

The United States military's high-technology branch is hoping to test out on-orbit satellite servicing in orbit in the next five years.

Executive  
Gov

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@ExecutiveGov



Following

@DARPA's SIMPLEX program aims to  
build mathematical tools to speed up  
process of complex data analysis

[goo.gl/csOf8Q](https://goo.gl/csOf8Q)

#GovCon



Jeff Foust @jeff\_foust · 1h

Sponable: also made one propulsion award to ORBITEC for vortex engine, and another propulsion award still pending.

👍 5 🌟 1 ...



Jeff Foust @jeff\_foust · 1h

Sponable: besides 3 main XS-1 contracts (Boeing, Northrop, Masten) made awards to 6 organizations for specific technologies.

👍 4 🌟 1 ...



Jeff Foust @jeff\_foust · 2h

Sponable: flying XS-1 ten times in ten days, one of the program's goals, is "a toughie" but key to the goal of lowering space access costs.

👍 5 🌟 2 ...



Jeff Foust @jeff\_foust · 2h

DARPA XS-1 manager Jess Sponable: XS-1 is the 1st step in reducing the cost of space access by ultimately multiple orders of magnitude.

👍 3 🌟 2 ...



**Jeff Foust** @jeff\_foust · 17m

Young says XS-1 "couldn't come at a better time"; why Northrop taking program seriously. (But doesn't talk much about NG's technical plans.)

Retweet 2 · Reply 1 · Like 1



**Jeff Foust** @jeff\_foust · 21m

Doug Young, Northrop Grumman: don't see XS-1 as a tech program so much as an engineering one, putting existing tech into "elegant" solution.

Retweet 2 · Reply 1 · Like 1



Retweeted by Jeff Foust



**Parabolicarc.com** @parabolicarc · 35m

@jeff\_foust Masten's propulsion provider is XCOR, which developed a methane engine for NASA some years back.

Retweet 6 · Reply 1 · Like 1

[View conversation](#)



**Jeff Foust** @jeff\_foust · 38m

Poulos: will be using LOX/methane engine for XS-1. LOX/kerosene way too hard to make work for a reusable system.

Retweet 7 · Reply 3 · Like 1



**Jeff Foust** @jeff\_foust · 42m

Dennis Poulos, XS-1 manger at Masten Space Systems: our design for XS-1 is "rapidly" changing from concept released in July.



**Khyber Chang** As much as DARPA creeps me out sometimes... I want everything they make at my personal disposal. I just want me to have it and not exterior forces... Just me

Like · Reply · Retweet 9 · September 14 at 9:34am



**Jonathan Tringham** @Global\_Defcon · Sep 8

RT @MaxRotor: This is a serious business but I find the @DARPA GXV-T Agility concept video strangely hilarious [youtu.be/L2NXSgD\\_INY](https://youtu.be/L2NXSgD_INY) #duck

Reply Retweet Favorite More



**nyzap** @nyzap · 14h

@Global\_Defcon @MaxRotor @DARPA But hey, wouldn't U want such protective tech if U were driving in a combat zone? DARPA rocks!

Reply Retweet Favorite More



**Tony Skinner**

@MaxRotor



Follow

@nyzap @Global\_Defcon @DARPA  
DARPA undoubtedly rocks. But the claim the vehicle can duck to avoid a tank shell raised some eyebrows here!



**Jeff Foust**

@jeff\_foust



Following

DARPA's Pam Melroy: time of great challenge and opportunity in space; focus our tech development work on affordability.

**D** Defense One  
@DefenseOne

Following

.@Boeing and @SpaceX Tapped To Free  
NASA from Russian Launches  
[bit.ly/YQfKK6](http://bit.ly/YQfKK6) via @qz

Reply Retweet Favorite More

**D** Defense One



**Boeing and SpaceX Tapped To Free NASA from Russian Launches**

By Tim Fernholz @TimFernholz

NASA awarded a \$4.2 billion contract to Boeing and a \$2.6 billion contract to SpaceX to send its astronauts into orbit without help from Russia. By Tim Fernholz

**Executive Gov** ExecutiveGov  
@ExecutiveGov

Following

Report: @usairforce to roll out IT strategy  
focusing on cybersecurity rather than  
electronic warfare issues

[goo.gl/Ce6LcX](http://goo.gl/Ce6LcX)

#GovCon

The image shows a screenshot of a tweet from the account 'Defense Logistics' (@DLAMIL). The tweet text reads: 'Buying What Works: Case Studies in Innovative Contracting #TechFARHandbook [ow.ly/ByxZP](https://ow.ly/ByxZP) @WhiteHouse'. The tweet interface includes a profile picture, the name 'Defense Logistics', the handle '@DLAMIL', a gear icon for settings, and a blue 'Following' button.

## Defense News

[NSA Director Talks Islamic State, Cybersecurity](#) (*U.S. News & World Report*) National Security Agency Director Michael Rogers said Tuesday the U.S. needs to be prepared for digital attacks from terrorist groups including the Islamic State and work with other countries on what qualifies as an "attack." When asked about reports that the Islamic State has pledged to form a "digital caliphate," the Navy admiral noted that the terrorist group has been "aggressive" in its use of media and the Internet, but would not specify the level of cybersecurity threat posed by the fighters.

[Boeing and SpaceX getting NASA money for manned space launches \[Updated\]](#) (*Ars Technica*) Today, NASA administrator Charles Bolden announced that there were two winners in the campaign to become the first company to launch astronauts to low-Earth orbit: Boeing and SpaceX. The two will receive contracts that total \$6.8 billion dollars to have hardware ready for a 2017 certification—a process that will include one crewed flight to the International Space Station (ISS).

## Today in DoD

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey are traveling.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work has no public or media events on his schedule.

Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Frank Kendall provides keynote address at Air Force Association event at 10:30 a.m. EDT at the Gaylord Hotel, National Harbor, Maryland

(b)(4),(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)  
 Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 11:18 AM  
 To: (b)(4),(b)(6) Outreach: (b)(6)  
 Subject: RE: SyNAPSE interview today  
 Signed By: (b)(6)  
 Follow Up Flag: Follow up  
 Flag Status: Completed

Thanks I will fwd (b)(6)  
 I also need to mention (b)(6) doing an interview today with Pop Mech

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(4),(b)(6)  
 Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 11:16 AM  
 To: (b)(4),(b)(6) Outreach: (b)(6)  
 Subject: SyNAPSE interview today

One thing I forgot: SyNAPSE interview at 2 p.m. today (Defense News reporter, Joe Gould). We'll do a conference call with (b)(6) in Boston.

(b)(6) below is a DPO input for (b)(6) if you'd like to send. Interview shouldn't cover any new ground--will be similar to what we did w/NYT, WaPo and Science.

Best,  
 (b)(6)

TODAY's DATE: Sep 17, 2014

DATE and TIME of INTERVIEW: Sep 17, 2014, 2:00 p.m. EDT

INTERVIEW DETAILS: DARPA program manager (b)(6) conducts an interview with reporter Jay Gould of Defense News about the recent achievement in the Systems of Neuromorphic Adaptive Plastic Scalable Electronics (SyNAPSE) program.

BACKGROUND: The reporter is new at Defense News as the land warfare and information warfare reporter. He's "interested in learning more about the intent of the program, the engineering breakthrough that enabled its success, and what the potential applications could be." (b)(6) did

interviews with WaPo, NYT & Science on the significance of the new SyNAPSE computer chip/neuromorphic computing when DARPA performer IBM unveiled the chip in July 2014. We anticipate this interview will be similar.

LOCATION: Teleconference

POC: (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(4), (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 8:48 AM

To: (b)(4), (b)(6) Outreach: (b)(4), (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Staying out another day

Thanks, guys. Glad to hear all are on the mend. I felt a cold coming on yesterday, but 1000mg of Vitamin C, hot tea, and a good night's rest helped a lot, so I'm here and don't think I'm contagious. Finishing up some DISTAR cases, working program page updates for DSO, and will try to start working on upcoming Web features. Once we hear from (b)(6) on MFRF that one will be ready to go. ICONS is cleared and ready to post with the BAA either Friday or early next week. Hopefully will get word from GC on our proposed updated disclaimer verbiage (I sent it to (b)(6) yesterday). Then we can start using that on DISTAR cases.

(b)(6)

Best,

(b)(4), (b)(6)

[www.darpa.mil](http://www.darpa.mil)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(4), (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 8:08 AM

To: (b)(4), (b)(6) Outreach: (b)(4), (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(4), (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Staying out another day

Thanks, (b)(6) Glad you're feeling better.

I am working from home today as well. My sick daughter is doing better today and I hope to send her to school tomorrow, which would enable me to come to the office. I plan to be there for the TTO interview tomorrow.

(b)(4), (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 7:45 AM  
To: Outreach; (b)(4), (b)(6)  
Cc: (b)(4), (b)(6)  
Subject: Staying out another day

Hey team I'm a lot better but feeling pretty virus-battered and possibly lingeringly contagious so I'm going to keep my distance one more day. I will be working full bore from here (among other things I am watching a lot of

(b)(6) Ted talks to help choose best speakers from among the many nominees for  
(b)(6) next year's big conference). (b)(6) is likely out as well since his wife is  
(b)(6) stranded in Baja and I think (b)(6) is out so I hope all is mellow and folks  
(b)(6) can catch up on stuff. (b)(6) I will be in to do (b)(6) video re-shoot  
tomorrow even if you are still out. (b)(6) will cancel that lunch. Stay in  
touch folks!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(4),(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(4),(b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:40 PM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** FW: Rush media request - Fast Company  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

----- Original Message -----

**From:** (b)(6) On Behalf Of (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:37 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Rush media request - Fast Company

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(6) from Fast Company here. I'm working with (b)(6) on a short explainer about homomorphic encryption (MacArthur Grant time, natch) and wanted to contact you for an expert quote. Do you have a few minutes to hop on the phone or even time to send a quick paragraph explaining what homomorphic encryption is to our readership?

Thanks

(b)(6)

(b)(4),(b)(6)

10

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:28 PM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** from (b)(6) science writer Neurology Today

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi. I am doing a story on the DARPA funding for neural recording and stimulation. Can you arrange a phone interview with (b)(6)? Thanks (b)(6)

(b)(4),(b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:28 PM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** Army Times query  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

---

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:18 PM  
**To:** (b)(4),(b)(6)  
**Subject:** Re: GXV-T -- Army Times query

(b)(4),(b)(6)

I appreciate your help with the GXV-T piece. I'm wondering if you'd also be the point of contact for the Warrior Web program, or would know who that person might be. I'm looking to confirm that the project featured in this video is under that program's funding umbrella, mostly because my bosses are big fans of jet packs:

<http://researchmatters.asu.edu/videos/jetpack-helps-soldiers-run-faster>

While readers and viewers might be drawn in by the Bond-esque nature of the video, it would also be a chance for DARPA to give an update on the overall program, which I believe began in 2011. If this jetpack falls under a different program, it'd be great to inform our readers of whatever that effort entails.

Thanks in advance for any help you can provide on this.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Army Times

---

**From:** (b)(4),(b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 5, 2014 4:58 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Cc:** Outreach  
**Subject:** RE: GXV-T -- Army Times query

(b)(6) - Good to hear from you. Yes, I'm the internal DARPA Public Affairs contact for GXV-T. I'm happy to help how I can but just to be clear, I'm a contractor and cannot be quoted on the record.

Regarding your second question below, all available information about GXV-T is on the DARPA website. In fact, we just posted a new web feature on the program today: [go.usa.gov/yHdR](http://go.usa.gov/yHdR). Any questions about the Army program should be directed to the Army.

You are welcome to use any content from the DARPA website or our official social media accounts. We simply ask that you credit content to DARPA (unless it is otherwise sourced), and follow the guidelines in our usage policy, which is available at: <http://www.darpa.mil/NewsEvents/Usage.aspx>.

For updates on DARPA news, please follow us on Twitter or Facebook.

Regards,

DARPA Public Affairs

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[www.facebook.com/darpa](http://www.facebook.com/darpa)

[www.twitter.com/darpa](http://www.twitter.com/darpa)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/DARPAtv>

—Original Message—

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, September 05, 2014 4:28 PM

To: (b)(4), (b)(6)

Subject: FW: GXV-T – Army Times query

(b)(4), (

(b)(6)

I'm forwarding the below to you after reaching out to [redacted] over at TARDEC. We're running a small item on GXV based primarily on DARPA's release and some Army images, but wanted to make sure you were the right point of contact for future follow-ups. He helped answer the first question, but the second request still stands.

Thank you in advance.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Staff writer, Army Times

---

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2014 11:46 AM

To: [Outreach@darpa.mil](mailto:Outreach@darpa.mil)

Subject: GXV-T – Army Times query

Sir/Ma'am,

I'm writing from Army Times with two requests regarding the recently announced GXV-T initiative, which is set to have a Proposer's Day on Friday.

1. What relationship, if any, does the DARPA program have to the Army GXV program, which involves a similar name, design and imagery? <<http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a603858.pdf>>  
<http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a603858.pdf>

2. Regardless of the answer to No. 1, would it be possible to speak with a subject-matter expert from the DARPA program in the next day or two, to discuss the potential benefits of the GXV-T, the developmental procedure going forward, and perhaps the Army program?

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. We're hoping to get a piece into this week's print edition, which deadlines on Friday.

Thank you very much in advance.

V/r,

(b)(6)



This page was  
blank

12

(b)(4),(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(4),(b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 4:45 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) Outreach  
**Subject:** RE: Defense Systems magazine interview re big data

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

(b)(6)

Thank you for contacting us. There are several big data programs currently underway at DARPA. Take a look a look at our current program descriptions embedded below and if there are any that are of interest, let me know what times work for you the next couple of weeks and I can help set you up to speak with one or two of the program managers or the office director for an overview.

(b)(4),(b)(6)

- **Anomaly Detection at Multiple Scales (ADAMS):** ADAMS is developing technology to detect and characterize anomalies in massive data sets. For Demo Day, ADAMS is demonstrating technologies for detecting insider threats to information systems.
- **Autonomous Real-time Ground Ubiquitous Surveillance—Infrared (ARGUS-IR):** ARGUS-IR is a persistent wide-area high-resolution infrared surveillance system that provides high-resolution imagery to enable tracking of vehicles and dismounted warfighters over a wide area. For Demo Day, ARGUS-IR is demonstrating the current status of the infrared sensor and associated image processing system and the technical challenges they address.
- **Big Mechanism:** Big Mechanism aims to develop techniques to enable computers to read journals and other traditional sources of knowledge and build and maintain explanatory, actionable models of complicated systems such as cancer, economic systems and the brain. For Demo Day, Big Mechanism is reviewing the current state of the art and describing the technical challenges the program plans to address.
- **Detection and Computational Analysis of Psychological Signals (DCAPS):** DCAPS aims to develop techniques to help health care professionals assess the health status of individuals, focusing on indicators of mental distress. For Demo Day, DCAPS is demonstrating tools that analyze "honest signals" from a wide variety of data sources, including nonverbal cues such as facial expression, posture, movement patterns, online behaviors and spoken and written communication. In the first phase we funded nine different principal investigators to research new biometric modalities, and we were joined in the program by a principal investigator from the Navy who was working on a similar project.
- **Detection and Computational Analysis of Psychological Signals (DCAPS):** DCAPS aims to develop techniques to help health care professionals assess the health status of individuals, focusing on indicators of mental distress. For Demo Day, DCAPS is demonstrating tools that analyze "honest signals" from a wide variety of data sources, including nonverbal cues such as facial expression, posture, movement patterns, online behaviors and spoken and written communication.
- **DARPA Open Catalog:** The DARPA Open Catalog organizes publicly releasable material from DARPA programs, including DARPA-sponsored software and peer-reviewed publications. For Demo Day, the DARPA Open Catalog is showing current holdings.

- ENGAGE: DARPA created the ENGAGE program to enable the development of education and training systems that are better, faster, continuously optimized, and massively scalable. For Demo Day, ENGAGE is demonstrating game-based education and training approaches that harness the power of large user populations to optimize instruction.
- Insight: Insight is developing technology to integrate disparate "stovepiped" intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) information into a unified picture of the battlefield. For Demo Day, Insight is highlighting capabilities to identify threats using advanced pattern analysis, data fusion and threat-force-detection algorithms.
- Mining and Understanding Software Enclaves (MUSE): MUSE seeks to make significant advances in the way software is built, debugged, verified, maintained and understood by integrating ideas from big data analytics, data mining and program analysis. For Demo Day, MUSE is reviewing the current state of the art and describing the technical challenges the program plans to address.
- Probabilistic Programming for Advancing Machine Learning (PPAML): PPAML is developing probabilistic programming techniques for rapidly creating machine learning applications. For Demo Day, PPAML is demonstrating initial capabilities in selected problem domains.
- Social Media in Strategic Communication (SMISC): SMISC is developing tools to support human operators in countering adversary misinformation or deception campaigns. For Demo Day, SMISC is demonstrating techniques to model patterns of information flow and to detect the spread of sentiment or opinion through social media.
- Visual Media Reasoning (VMR): VMR is developing a software system that lets users quickly query large collections of photos and videos to find people, locations, objects and their spatial relationships without relying on metadata or human tagging. For Demo Day, VMR is demonstrating the ability to search photos and videos using three specific capabilities: free-form clustering, keyword combinations and visual examples.
- XDATA: XDATA is developing computational techniques and software tools for processing and analyzing large, imperfect and incomplete data. For Demo Day, XDATA is demonstrating scalable analytics and Web-based human-computer interaction tools that can be rapidly customized to different missions.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 1:29 PM  
To: Outreach  
Subject: Defense Systems magazine interview re big data

Hi. I'm starting an article on the defense industry's big data projects, and am extremely interested in talking with DARPA representatives about the agency's many projects.

Could you spare 20 minutes or so before my Sept. 29 deadline to discuss this project.

I'm interested in discussing the benefits that can be gained when technology is used to help analysts and warfighters make more use of the large volumes of data being collected every day. Updates on the individual projects would also be of interest.

Thanks very much for any assistance you can provide.

(b)(6)

(b)(4),(b)(6)

13

**From:** Outreach <Outreach@darpa.mil>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 1:41 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Cc:** Outreach  
**Subject:** RE: Images for French magazine le Parisien Magazine

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Greetings,

Thank you for your interest in DARPA. HTV-2 is no longer an active program. You are free, however, to use any images/video found on [www.darpa.mil](http://www.darpa.mil) or on our social media sites (Twitter, Facebook & YouTube) according to our usage policy: <http://go.usa.gov/nYr>

Best regards,

DARPA Public Affairs  
[www.darpa.mil](http://www.darpa.mil)  
[www.facebook.com/darpa](http://www.facebook.com/darpa)  
[www.twitter.com/darpa](http://www.twitter.com/darpa)  
[www.youtube.com/darpatv](http://www.youtube.com/darpatv)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 11, 2014 10:21 AM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** Images for French magazine le Parisien Magazine  
**Importance:** High

Good afternoon,

in order to illustrate the article of Thomas Saintourens about planes in the Future to be published in the section "Futur" of le Parisien Magazine, could you please send e high resolution images of HTV2

Thank you by advance for the help you would give me,

best regards,

Le Parisien Magazine is a French weekly magazine out every Friday with the newspaper le Parisien ; 450 000 issues and more than a million readers.

(b)(6)



Description : Description : Description : Description : logosignature

(b)(4),(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 2:35 PM  
**To:** (b)(4),(b)(6) Outreach  
**Subject:** RE: Jump Ball! photos from 9/12 DCC event  
**Signed By:** (b)(6)  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

(b)(4),(b)(5),(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 2:18 PM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** Jump Ball! photos from 9/12 DCC event

(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)(E)



(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7E)

(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)(E)

(b)(3), (b)(6), (b)(7)(E)

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(b)(4),(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 4:37 PM  
**To:** Outreach  
**Subject:** from a journalist at Business Insider

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hello,

I'm a reporter with Business Insider, where we'd like to get a better idea of what MIT's Cheetah 2 (the four-legged robot demonstrated earlier this week) is meant to achieve! Is this thing destined for the battlefields of the future, or for disaster relief? And can you answer to its budget? I understand this project was fully-funded by DARPA.

Thanks for your time.

(b)(4),(b)(6)