



MILITARY LEADERS LETTER TO CONGRESS

March 30, 2011

Dear Member of Congress:

As retired flag and general officers of the U.S. military from all branches of the armed services, we are writing to express our belief that the International Affairs Budget, which funds our civilian-led efforts, is a critical part of our national security funding. We recognize that we must reduce our nation's debt, but we urge you to support a strong and effective International Affairs Budget and oppose disproportionate cuts to this vital account.

When we entered the military, the world was a very different place. The threats and the world we faced were defined by the Cold War and the prospect of military conflict between nations. Today's interconnected world knows no borders, and the United States must use all of its tools of national power and influence to foster political and economic stability, strengthen our allies, and fight complex threats such as the spread of disease, poverty, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

Development and diplomacy keep us safer by addressing threats in the most dangerous corners of the world and by preventing conflicts before they occur. The State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development and other civilian-led programs are especially critical at a time when we are asking them to take on greater responsibilities in Iraq and Afghanistan. Addressing today's challenges with civilian tools costs far less than it does to send in the military in dollars and, more importantly, in terms of the risks to the lives of our men and women in uniform. At just over one percent of federal spending, the International Affairs Budget is a strong return on our investment.

It may seem unusual for military men and women to speak on behalf of the non-military tools but we are not alone. Secretary of Defense Robert S. Gates has said that "without development we will not be successful in either Iraq or Afghanistan." Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen recently testified before Congress, saying "I reiterate my unequivocal support to fully resource an expansion of...diplomacy and development capabilities, particularly in Iraq to support the transition from a military to a civilian-led mission." General David Petraeus has said that "maintaining a close civil-military partnership is a critical part of a comprehensive counterinsurgency campaign" and a "hugely important aspect of our operations." And a recent poll found that ninety percent of active duty and retired military officers believe that a strong military alone is not enough to protect America, and we need to use the tools of development and diplomacy to achieve our national security objectives.

We must be able to improve our fiscal situation without sacrificing American leadership in the world. Therefore, we urge you to support a strong and effective International Affairs Budget. Our nation's security depends upon it.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. W. Hagee" followed by a horizontal line.

General Michael W. Hagee, USMC (Ret.)
Co-Chair, National Security Advisory Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Loy" in a cursive style.

Admiral James Loy, USCG (Ret.)
Co-Chair, National Security Advisory Council

See attached signatory list of 70 military leaders



NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Congressional Letter Signatories

March 30, 2011

Admiral Charles S. Abbot, USN (Ret.)
Deputy Commander in Chief,
U.S. European Command ('98-'00)

Admiral Thad W. Allen, USCG (Ret.)
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard ('06-'10)

Vice Admiral Albert J. Baciocco, Jr., USN (Ret.)
Director of Research, Development & Acquisition,
Department of Navy ('83-'87)

Admiral Frank L. Bowman, USN (Ret.)
Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion ('96-'04)

General Charles G. Boyd, USAF (Ret.)
Deputy Commander in Chief,
U.S. European Command ('92-'95)

General Bryan Doug Brown, USA (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command ('03-'07)

Lt. General Daniel W. Christman, USA (Ret.)
Superintendent, United States Military Academy ('96-'01)

General Richard A. "Dick" Cody, USA (Ret.)
Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army ('04-'08)

Lt. General John B. Conaway, USAF (Ret.)
Chief, National Guard Bureau ('90-'93)

General Donald G. Cook, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, Air Education and Training Command,
(‘01-'05)

General Bantz J. Craddock, USA (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. European Command and NATO
Supreme Allied Commander Europe ('06-'09)

Admiral Walter F. Doran, USN (Ret.)
Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet ('02-'05)

Lt. General James M. Dubik, USA (Ret.)
Commander, North American Aerospace Defense
Command/Commander, U.S. Northern Command
(‘02-'04)

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Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic/Commander in
Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command ('90-'92)

Admiral William J. Fallon, USN (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Central Command ('07-'08)

Admiral Thomas B. Fargo, USN (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Pacific Command ('02-'05)

General Robert H. Foglesong, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe ('04-'05)

Lt. General Robert G. Gard, Jr., USA (Ret.)
President, National Defense University, 1977-1981

Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN (Ret.)
Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff ('05-'07)

Vice Admiral Lee F. Gunn, USN (Ret.)
Inspector General, U.S. Navy ('97-'00)

General Michael W. Hagee, USMC (Ret.)
Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('03-'06)

General John W. Handy, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Transportation Command
and Commander, Air Mobility Command
(‘01-'05)

General Richard E. Hawley, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, Air Combat Command ('96-'99)

General Michael V. Hayden, USAF (Ret.)
Director, Central Intelligence Agency (2006-2009)

Admiral Ronald J. Hays, USN (Ret.)
Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command ('85-'88)

General Richard D. Hearney, USMC (Ret.)
Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('94-'96)

General Paul V. Hester, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Air Component
Commander for the U.S. Pacific Command Commander
(‘04-'07)

General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Southern Command ('02-'04)

Admiral James R. Hogg, USN (Ret.)
U.S. Military Representative, NATO Military
Committee ('88-'91)

Lt. General Patrick M. Hughes, USA (Ret.)
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency ('96-'99)

General James L. Jamerson, USAF (Ret.)
Deputy Commander in Chief,
U.S. European Command ('95-'98)

Admiral Gregory G. Johnson, USN (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Commander
in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe ('01-'04)

Admiral Jerome L. Johnson, USN (Ret.)
Vice Chief of Naval Operations ('90-'92)

General John P. Jumper, USAF (Ret.)
Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force ('01-'05)

Admiral Timothy J. Keating, USN (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Pacific Command ('07-'09)

Lt. General Claudia J. Kennedy, USA (Ret.)
Deputy Chief of Staff for Army Intelligence ('97-'00)

General Paul J. Kern, USA (Ret.)
Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command
(‘01-'04)

General William F. Kernan, USA (Ret.)
Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic/Commander
in Chief, U.S. Joint Forces Command ('00-'02)

Lt. General Donald L. Kerrick, USA (Ret.)
Deputy National Security Advisor to
The President of the United States ('00-'01)

General Ronald E. Keys, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, Air Combat Command ('05-'07)

Admiral Charles R. Larson, USN (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Pacific Command ('91-'94)

Vice Admiral Stephen F. Loftus, USN (Ret.)
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Logistics ('90-'94)

Admiral T. Joseph "Joe" Lopez, USN (Ret.)
Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Com-
mander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe
(‘96-'98)

General Lance W. Lord, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Air Force Space Command ('02-'06)

Admiral James M. Loy, USCG (Ret.)
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard ('98-'02)

General Dan K. McNeill, USA (Ret.)
Commander, International Security Assistance
Force in Afghanistan ('07-'08)

Lt. General Paul T. Mikolashek, USA (Ret.)
Inspector General, U.S. Army/Commanding General of
the Third U.S. Army Forces Central Command ('00-'02)

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Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet/Commander,
Fleet Forces Command ('00-'03)

Lt. General Gregory S. Newbold, USMC (Ret.)
Director of Operations, J-3 Joint Staff ('00-'02)

General William L. Nyland, USMC (Ret.)
Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('02-'05)

Lt. General Jeffrey W. Oster, USMC (Ret.)
Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer,
Coalition Provisional Authority, Iraq (2004); Deputy
Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters
Marine Corps (ended in '98)

Lt. General Charles P. Osttott, USA (Ret.)
Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee ('90-'92)

Admiral William A. Owens, USN (Ret.)
Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, ('94-'96)

Admiral Joseph W. Prueher, USN (Ret.)
Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command ('96-'99)

Lt. General Harry D. Raduege, Jr., USAF (Ret.)
Director, Defense Information Systems Agency ('00-'05);
Commander, Joint Task Force for Global Network
Operations ('04-'05)

Vice Admiral Norman W. Ray, USN (Ret.)
Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee ('92-'95)

General Victor "Gene" E. Renuart, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, North American Aerospace Defense
Command and U.S. Northern Command ('07-'10)

General Robert W. RisCassi, USA (Ret.)
Commander in Chief, United Nations Command/
Commander in Chief, Republic of Korea/U.S.
Combined Forces Command ('90-'93)

Vice Admiral Ronald A. Route, USN (Ret.)
Naval Inspector General ('04-'07)
President, Naval War College ('03-'04)

General Peter J. Schoomaker, USA (Ret.)
Chief of Staff, U.S. Army ('03-'07)

Lt. General Norman R. Seip, USAF (Ret.)
Commander, 12th Air Force/Air Forces Southern ('06-'09)

General John M. Shalikashvili, USA (Ret)
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff ('93-'97)

General Henry H. Shelton, USA (Ret.)
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff ('97-'01)

Admiral Leighton W. Smith, Jr., USN (Ret.)
Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/
Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe
(‘94-'96)

Admiral William D. Smith, USN (Ret.)
U.S. Military Representative, NATO Military
Committee ('91-'93)

Vice Admiral William D. Sullivan, USN (Ret.)
U.S. Military Representative to NATO Military Committee
(‘06-'09)

Admiral Henry G. Ulrich
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/ Commander,
Joint Forces Command Naples ('05-'08)

General Charles F. Wald, USAF (Ret.)
Deputy Commander, U.S. European Command ('02-'06)

General Charles E. Wilhelm, USMC (Ret.)
Commander, U.S. Southern Command ('97-'00)

General Michael J. Williams, USMC (Ret.)
Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('00-'02)