

## **STATEMENT BY FORMER U.S. COMBATANT COMMANDERS**

*March 10, 2019*

As military leaders who have commanded regional combatant commands in the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, Africa, the Pacific, and North America, we know that the military alone cannot keep our nation safe. Diplomacy and development are essential to combating threats before they reach our shores.

We stand with and share the perspectives of our fellow combatant commanders who have testified before Congress in recent days on the strategic importance of the State Department, USAID, and other U.S. development agencies as key partners around the world to protect our interests and our values.

As Congress considers next year's federal budget, we urge policymakers to continue to protect resources for America's International Affairs Budget. Doing so is critical to keeping our nation safe and prosperous in a world of global threats and great power competition.

**General Wesley Clark, USA (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. European Command; U.S. Southern Command

**General Bantz Craddock, USA (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. European Command; U.S. Southern Command

**Admiral William Fallon, USN (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Central Command; U.S. Pacific Command

**Admiral Thomas Fargo, USN (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Pacific Command

**General Douglas Fraser, USAF (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Southern Command

**General James Hill, USA (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Southern Command

**Admiral Samuel Locklear III, USN (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Pacific Command

**General Barry McCaffrey, USA (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Southern Command

**General David Petraeus, USA (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Central Command

**General Victor Renuart, USAF (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Northern Command

**Admiral James Stavridis, USN (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. European Command; U.S. Southern Command

**Lt. General Kip Ward, USA (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Africa Command

**General Charles Wilhelm, USMC (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Southern Command

**General Anthony Zinni, USMC (Ret.)**

Commander, U.S. Central Command