



NAVY LEAGUE

of the United States

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Leg. Affairs Weekly Round-Up – September 21

Defense Funding Passes

The Senate voted Tuesday to approve the Conference Report for the Fiscal Year 2019 Defense Appropriations bill 93-7. The last time a funding bill was passed before the new fiscal year began was 2009, Continuing Resolutions (CRs) have been necessary in every year since. The legislation which includes a \$606 billion base budget and \$68 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations, is now waiting for a vote by the House of Representatives and the President's signature.

An update to last week's summary: the Naval Sea Cadets Corps was appropriated \$3.3 million in funding for FY19, significantly more than the \$1.7 million requested by the Administration. We want to thank all the Navy Leaguers that volunteer with the Sea Cadets and helped advocate for this funding!

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Navy League on the Hill

Next week your Navy League is sponsoring two fantastic events supported by headquarters staff. The first is the Coast Guard birthday celebration Wednesday afternoon September 26, the second is our quarterly Shipbuilding Caucus breakfast on Friday September 28, featuring Maritime Administrator Admiral Mark Buzby. Navy League members are always invited so please email rsimon@navyleague.org if you'd like to attend. Please feel free to forward the attached invitation to your own Congressional contacts.

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- Jones Act discussion

Cyber Strategy Released

This week the Administration released its 2018 Department of Defense Cyber Strategy, the first since 2015. In a shift from the Obama era document, this strategy focuses on competition with Russia and China, and moving beyond deterrence to competing and winning in cyberspace. In a controversial move it also reduces barriers to the use of offensive cyber weapons. It highlights protection of Defense Critical Infrastructure and the Defense Industrial Base as essential to the mission and calls for strengthening cyber expertise across agencies and the education system in order to build national capacity.

The strategy emphasizes work previously done by the UN to enforce norms for state actors in cyberspace, while declaring that America's cyber warriors should be prepared to fight alongside other services during wartime. In pursuit of that goal the strategy calls for "operationalizing international partnerships" in addition to better cooperation with other agencies, protecting DoD systems, and ensuring DoD partners and DoD information on other networks are secure from theft and attacks. War on the Rocks has a detailed analysis here: <https://warontherocks.com/2018/09/defending-forward-the-2018-cyber-strategy-is-here/>

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your councils, as well as friends and potential Navy League members!



A Coast Guard boat crew floats Bernard Jones (center) on their skiff through a shallow area Tuesday, September 18, in Pollockville, North Carolina. Jones requested assistance to retrieve supplies for his two-day-old baby after Hurricane Florence left him unable to reach his home through the flooded streets. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Zachary Hupp)

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Other stories of interest:

Top Stories

After Pacific tour, Navy's No. 2 talks readiness, staying ahead of competition - Stars and Stripes/Sep 18

Moran - the service's second-highest ranking officer - visited Navy bases in South Korea and Japan last week on a listening tour that he said brought helpful insight into on-the-ground operations in the Pacific.

NAVSEA: New Pentagon Strategy Putting Pressure on Private, Public Maintenance Yards to Deliver Ships on Time - USNI News/Sep 19

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. - The Pentagon's new focus on high-end warfare with sophisticated adversaries will put increased emphasis and pressure on Navy

readiness, and the service's maintenance infrastructure needs to better in fixing ships on time, the head of Naval Sea Systems Command said on Tuesday.

Major Navy Programs Likely Protected From Expected Tighter Pentagon Budgets - USNI News/Sep 20

Between Fiscal Year 2019 and 2023, the Pentagon expects to save roughly \$46 billion by cutting waste in the department. But at a time when future budgets are expected to remain flat at best, relying on cutting fat doesn't leave the Pentagon with many choices, Todd Harrison, the director of defense budget analysis at the Center for Strategic and International Studies said. The current defense budget doesn't come close to accomplishing those savings, yet Harrison said future budget projections rely on those savings.

Brian Mast Takes Over House Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee - Florida Daily/Sep 17

"Maritime transportation is a critical issue for Florida and the Coast Guard has an important presence in our state, which is why I asked Chairman Bill Shuster for the opportunity to take on leadership of this subcommittee," Mast said. "The Coast Guard plays an essential role in maintaining the rule of law on our waterways, including securing our borders and enforcing marine pollution laws. Working together, I'm confident we can ensure they have the tools they need to succeed at these critical missions."

U.S. Congressman John Garamendi Receives 'Champion of Maritime' Award - gCaptain/Sep 18

Through his years of work in the U.S. Congress, Rep. Garamendi has been unwavering and ardent supporter of the domestic maritime industry, which includes the men and women who build, operate and crew the tens of thousands of vessels that transport goods and people safely in the more than 95,000 miles of U.S. coastline and inland waterways, the American Maritime Partnership said in a statement.

Northern Command Provides DoD Hurricane Support Update - Seapower Magazine/Sep 17

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - U.S. Northern Command (NorthCom) provided an update in a Sept. 16 release as to the Defense Department (DoD) support to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) along with state and local responders in the wake of Hurricane Florence's landfall.

High-End Exercise Valiant Shield 2018 Features Joint Strike Fighters, 15,000 Personnel - USNI News/Sep 18

The exercise - a high-end, U.S.-only follow-up to the large-scale multi-national Rim of the Pacific exercise every other year - features more than a dozen ships, 160 aircraft and 15,000 personnel from all four military branches. This is the seventh iteration of the exercise, which began in 2006.

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Seapower

50 is the New 40: The Path to a 355-Ship Navy - Proceedings Magazine/September 2018

Recently Vice Admiral Tom Moore, Naval Systems Sea Command (NavSea), announced an extension in the expected service life of several classes of ships to 40 years as part of a plan to reach sooner the Navy's goal of 355 ships. While some think this is sleight-of-hand, I say this step is not bold enough-change it to 50 now, for all Navy ships.

One picture shows why Beijing's 'carrier killer' missiles won't win the South China Sea in a fight = Business Insider/Sep 19

Beijing's navy has grown to outnumber the US as it focuses on locking down the South China Sea with increasingly aggressive deployments of missiles, fighter jets, and even nuclear-capable bombers, but a picture from a recent US military exercise shows that the US still has the edge.

US carrier, thousands of troops practice 'wide range of skills' in Western Pacific - Stars and Stripes/Sep 17

Fifteen surface ships and more than 160 aircraft from the Navy, Air Force, Army and Marine Corps are participating in Valiant Shield, the latest iteration of an exercise that has happened every other year since 2006.

Navy jumps on the training reduction train for 2019 - Federal News Radio/Sep 17

General Military Training (GMT) demands will be pared back in an effort to "empower commanders with a greater ability to decide what training their personnel should receive," Vice Adm. Robert Burke, the chief of naval personnel wrote in a message to the fleet.

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Surface and Submarine Warfare

Congress to buy 3 more LCS than the Navy needs but gut funding for sensors that make them valuable - Defense News/Sep 19

In the 2019 Defense Department funding bill that just left the conference committee, lawmakers have funded a 33rd, 34th and 35th littoral combat ship, three more than the 32-ship requirement set by the Navy. But when it comes to the mission modules destined to make each ship either a mine sweeper, submarine hunter or small surface combatant, that funding has been slashed.

The US Navy is going to need a bigger boat, and it's getting ready to buy one - Defense News/Sep 17

The office of the Chief of Naval Operations Director of Surface Warfare, or OPNAV N96, has convened a "large surface combatant requirements evaluation team" to figure out what the Navy's next large ship will look like and what it will need to do. The goal, according to the N96 head Rear Adm. Ron Boxall, will be to buy the first cruiser replacement in 2023 or 2024.

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Expeditionary Warfare

[Wasp ESG Completes Typhoon Assistance to Northern Marianas, Guam - USNI News/Sep 14](#)

Marines and sailors from Wasp and Ashland flew 63 sorties in a variety of aircraft, including MV-22B Ospreys, CH-53E Super Stallion helicopters, and MH-60S Seahawk helicopters. The sailors and Marines delivered roughly 29,500 pounds of supplies such as drinking water to Guam, Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Also, on Rota, nearly 100 sailors and Marines deployed to clear debris from roadways and provided logistical help according to 7th Fleet.

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Aviation

[Modernization or death: Heed history's lessons on the F-35 - Defense News/Sep 17](#)

Modernizing America's aerial arsenal with advanced capabilities is not an optional activity. Failing to do so will undermine the U.S. military's effectiveness around the globe and put aircrews at undue risk.

[Skilled worker, parts shortages still hurting Hornet and Growler maintenance, government watchdog finds - Defense News/Sep 15](#)

The Navy, which is chipping away at a readiness crisis among its fighters and electronic attack aircraft, is being hampered by a lack of skilled workers and capacity, specifically at depots on the West Coast at Whidbey Island, Washington, and Lemoore, California. Furthermore some parts needed to repair the Hornets and Growlers were manufactured by suppliers who have gotten out of the business, significantly slowing the process and forcing the Navy to cannibalize parts on aircraft to offset the delays, the September report found.

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Homeland

[America's armed forces punch back at 'uninvited brute who doesn't want to leave.' - Navy Times/Sep 15](#)

Shortly after 1 p.m. Friday, Coast Guard officials in North Carolina announced that an MH-60 Jayhawk rescue helicopter crew from Air Station Elizabeth City was answering calls for help from local emergency responders fighting life-threatening storm surges, hurricane-force winds and catastrophic flooding.

[Search-and-rescue, FedEx, Uber and pet whisperer: Coast Guard works to evacuate North Carolina town - Washington Post/Sep 17](#)

A satellite dish poked just above the water's surface at the corner of the house, like a submarine's periscope. The boat's handheld radio came on with word that a second Coast Guard "punt team" had picked up a person who wanted to leave an inundated home a few streets up.

[Navy Identifies Sailor Killed Aboard USS George H.W. Bush - USNI News/Sep 19](#)

Airman Apprentice Joseph Min Naglak was working on the flight deck of Bush struck by the propeller of an E-2C Hawkeye after he secured the plane to the deck. The carrier was conducting flight operations qualifications at the time.

[Marine Who Rushed Into Burning Building: We Came to Help Our Neighbors -](#)

[Military.com/Sep 20](#)

Capt. Trey Gregory was one of the first 10 Marines to race toward a burning senior-living facility in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday -- and the teamwork he saw there is enough to get him choked up.

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Jones Act discussion

The following is for discussion purposes only and does not represent the position of the Navy League

[Op-Ed: The Jones Act provides key protections to American warfighters - American Military News/Sep 17](#)

Today's greatest threats come from countries that are fundamentally "wet" - North Korea, Yemen, Iran and hegemonic China. Provision over sea is a key U.S. military priority, as we are short on supply ships and airplanes have limited capacity. Previous provisioning deficiencies were well-documented during the Persian Gulf wars when families sent protective gear to their soldiers by FedEx.



180917-N-RX668-013 NEWPORT, R.I. (Sept. 17, 2018) The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Lawrence O. Lawson (WPC 1120) arrives at Naval Station Newport, R.I., in preparation for the Chief of Naval Operations' 23rd International Seapower Symposium (ISS) at the U.S. Naval War College. More than 180 senior officers and civilians from more than 100 countries including many of the senior-

most officers from those countries' navies and coast guards, are attending the biennial event Sept. 19-21. This year's theme is "Security, Order, Prosperity," and will feature guest speakers and panel discussions to explore the common security challenges of maritime nations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jess Lewis/Released)

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