

Trump salutes military, highlights commitment to increased defense spending

U.S. Department of Defense

President Donald J. Trump today thanked the men and women of the military for their service and highlighted his commitment to increased defense spending and national security in a speech at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, California. He thanked military families for backing their loved ones, saying none of what the military does would be possible without that support. [READ MORE](#)

Service Secretaries: People are most important part of DoD's success

U.S. Department of Defense

Army Secretary Mark T. Esper, Navy Secretary Richard V. Spencer and Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson told the Center for Strategic and International Studies that the American military's most crucial advantage is its people and that investment must continue to attract and retain them. All three service leaders said the fiscal 2018 budget goes a long way toward repairing the damage done by the Budget Control Act spending cuts and that the 2019 request will begin the road to modernization. [READ MORE](#)

What service members should know about military pay proposals

Military Times

It seems like every year, debates rage on in Congress, and between Congress and the president, about how much of a pay increase to give to members of the military for the next fiscal year. Are troops paid too much? Too little? If too little, how much of an increase should there be, and should it be among troops at all levels? Where do budget considerations come in? [READ MORE](#)

Report shows finances as a top concern for troops, families

Military.com

A new report shows financial worries around health care, education, child care and frequent moves are a major source of stress for military and veteran families. "Our families are having a hard time getting ahead. They don't have enough savings for emergencies, they're getting in debt, and some families don't have enough to put food on the table," said Shelley Kimball, who directs research for the Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN), which conducted the survey. [READ MORE](#)

Political climate helps shut down BRAC efforts -- for now

Stars & Stripes

Longtime efforts to streamline the military through the Base Realignment and Closure process are dead for now, as communities play a larger role in thwarting the moves especially in the midst of an election year, said Congressman Adam Smith, D-Wash., and the ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee. [READ MORE](#)

US Air Force orders freeze on public outreach

Defense News

The U.S. Air Force is slashing access to media embeds, base visits and interviews as it seeks to put the entire public affairs apparatus through retraining — a move it says is necessary for operational security, but one which could lead to a broader freeze in how the service interacts with the public. [READ MORE](#)