

**From:** [Al Bunting](#)  
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**Top:**

[Leahy and others introduce bipartisan legislation to expand cyber \*\*National Guard\*\*](#)

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"The **National Guard** is always ready when natural or manmade disasters strike at home," Senator Coons said. "The Cyber Warrior Act allows them to respond to cyber disasters, too, an increasingly common threat to our country from organized crime ...

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▪ [No Budget Cut Relief for AF's Aging Fleet](#)

[Lt. Gen. Stanley Clarke](#) last week formally became Air National Guard director during a ceremony at JOB Andrews, Md.. He replaced [Lt. Gen. Bud Wyatt](#) who [retired](#) earlier this year after more than 40 years in uniform. "This is quite an honor and I am humbled at the opportunity to serve," said Clarke at the March 22 ceremony. "I've arrived in a time of budget turmoil and uncertainty, but I view this as a time of opportunity as well," he added. Clarke comes to the leadership role after having commanded the Continental US NORAD Region-1st Air Force (Air Forces Northern) at Tyndall AFB, Fla., since August 2011. "My commitment to you and the adjutants general is clear," he said to the assembled Air Guardsmen. "We will do everything within our authority to ensure our airmen have clear policies, equipment, training, and resources to accomplish assigned missions" and that "we remain community-based, team-oriented, and experienced." Clarke last week told a congressional oversight panel that he had three immediate priorities: to minimize the "dramatic toll" that budget cutbacks are taking on the Air Guard's readiness and people; to work with the two other Air Force components to achieve an appropriate balance of forces; and to ensure all three Air Force components are "modernized concurrently" so they remain relevant and interoperable. \*

[Pentagon Fine-Tunes Automatic Spending Cuts](#)

(Bloomberg Government (bgov.com)) - The Pentagon must work this week fine-tuning the automatic budget cuts of sequestration now that Congress has approved a stopgap spending measure to fund the government for the rest of the fiscal year.. [Military Times Poll: Officers Much Happier Than Enlisted Members](#)

(Army Times) - Enlisted service members are significantly less happy than officers with their pay, leaders, promotion fairness and quality of life, according to the latest annual Military Times Poll.

[Lt. Gen. Ingram: Army \*\*National Guard\*\* accessible, capable, ready, great value](#)

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DVIDS

Army Staff Sgt. Mangnan Tan, a medic from Lubbock, Texas, with Security Force Assistance Team

10, Texas Army **National Guard**, treats a child who approached his unit near an area known as the "Jungle" during Operation Southern Fist III, March 6, 2013, ...  
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## [Officials Sign Plan to Counter North Korean Threats](#)

03/24/2013 12:48 PM CDT

[Kerry Warns Iraq on Iran Flights to Syria](#) The U.S. has made clear to Iraq that it shouldn't allow Iran to use its airspace to fly weapons and fighters to Syria, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry says. Some U.S. lawmakers are calling for President Barack Obama to do wade deeper into the Syrian conflict. [Read More](#)

- [Shinseki Says VA on Target for Ending Backlog](#)
- [US, South Korea Agree on Plan if North Attacks](#)
- [FAA to Close 149 Air Traffic Towers Under Cuts](#)
- [Av Week: China's Defense Budget Up 7.5 Percent](#)
- [JSF Makes First Vertical Landing at Yuma](#)
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Army Gen. Lloyd Austin, who previously served as Army vice chief of staff, assumed command of US Central Command from Marine Corps Gen. Jim Mattis during a ceremony at MacDill AFB, Fla., on March 22. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel presided over the event. Mattis, who is retiring from the military after 41 years of service, [had led CENTCOM](#) since August 2010, overseeing the US military's activities in Afghanistan, Iraq, Central Asia, and the Middle East. "Jim Mattis really is one of a kind. He's a visionary," said Gen. Martin Dempsey, Joint Chiefs Chairman, during the ceremony. Dempsey added, "I've never met a marine who has served with Jim Mattis who has anything but the highest regard for his leadership." Dempsey noted that Austin also has done some "heavy lifting" downrange, having overseen the conclusion of the US mission in Iraq. Austin said he was "honored" to lead CENTCOM and thanked the members of command for their service. "I'm reminded of the courage, determination, and professionalism of the soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen, and their families," said Austin. He added, "They are without question the reason why ours remains the finest and most capable military in the world."

Sequestration's most immediate effect on the Air Force's energy initiatives is already happening, said Acting Undersecretary of the Air Force [Jamie Morin](#) last week. Because sequestration, which went into effect on March 1, compresses a fiscal year's worth of spending cuts into seven months, "we've had to absolutely stand on the brakes in terms of vital facility investments" related to energy efficiency, Morin told reporters during a March 21 press roundtable. The service's budget for facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization is one of the hardest hit areas, he said. "We had to take much deeper reduction in that area of activity in order to somewhat protect our flying-hour activity," said Morin. In an attempt to cut spending, earlier this year the Air Force drastically cut facility sustainment activities to emergency work orders only, he said. "We are seeing about a 90 percent reduction in expenditures in that area," said Morin. (For more from Morin's roundtable, see [Operational](#)

[Efficiency Highlighted in Energy Plan](#) and [Goal Surpassed in Reducing Aviation Fuel Use](#).)

—*Merri Shaffer*

Air Education and Training Command issued a vision document explaining how it is transforming its education and training activities to meet future demands in increasingly austere times, according to a command release. The 23-page document, An AETC Vision for Learning Transformation, focuses on the AETC commander's vision and first principles of learning, states the March 18 command release. Among those first principles are: "the Air Force learning environment is adaptable" and "learning is available anytime and anywhere." "We have an opportunity now, within AETC and the Air Force, to transform how we deliver education and training," said AETC Commander Gen. Edward Rice in the document's executive summary. The vision document "should guide people's thinking about how we can deliver our product in a time of scarce resources by doing things differently," said A.J. Ranft, AETC's chief learning officer. Looking ahead, for example, some career fields, like civil engineering, may place more emphasis on self-paced training, and AETC may migrate to a generalized composite undergraduate pilot training model that incorporates options to tailor flight training, states the document. (Randolph [report](#) by SSgt. Clinton Atkins) (Vision for Learning Transformation [document](#); caution, large-sized file.)

After the conclusion of a multiyear investigation, the Air Force has reopened access to the recreational venues at New Boston AFS, N.H., announced officials at the station, which is home to the 23rd Space Operations Squadron. In 2009, officials halted camping and recreational activities there to determine if there were any residual effects from the station's heritage as a World War II- and Korean war-era conflict training facility, states New Boston's March 21 [release](#). The investigation found no lasting effects prohibiting camping and recreational activities at the 2,600-acre site, according to the release. The New Boston campground is one of only two FamCamps—services-run camping facilities—in New England, and has approximately 50 campsites. The station, located 25 miles north of the Massachusetts state line, comprises mostly undeveloped forest areas.

### [Survivors Mark Anniversary Of Green Ramp Tragedy Privately](#)

(Fayetteville (NC) Observer) - Keith Masback has no trouble recalling March 23, 1994. He was attending jumpmaster school on Pope Air Force Base, standing outside near Green Ramp.

### [Air Power: New Aviation Strategy Seeks To Shatter Limitations](#)

(Marine Corps Times) - Ongoing development of a crisis-response force for Africa is emblematic of new missions the Marine Corps could take on without the use of amphibious ships, said one of the services top officers in aviation.

### [U.S., U.K. Chiefs To Hold Historic Strategy Meeting](#)

(Defense News) - In what is believed to be the first time since the 1940s, the entire British defense staff will be here March 25 to discuss long-range strategy and the impact of budget cuts with their U.S. counterparts, according to U.S. and British sources.

### [Arms Airlift To Syria Rebels Expands, With CIA Aid](#)

(New York Times) - With help from the CIA, Arab governments and Turkey have sharply increased their military aid to Syria's opposition fighters in recent months, expanding a secret airlift of arms and equipment for the uprising against President Bashar al-Assad, according to air traffic data, interviews with officials in several countries and the accounts of rebel commanders.

### [Rethinking U.S. Security Strategy](#)

(International Herald Tribune) - America's next security blueprint may mean greater burden-sharing for Washington's allies and partners.

### **Modern Nuclear-War Deterrence Begins With Nuke Locks**

(Bloomberg.com) - Start thinking the unthinkable. We as a nation have to start talking about the prospects for nuclear war.

### **U.S.-Israeli Cyberattack On Iran Was 'Act Of Force,' NATO Says**

(Washington Times) - The 2009 cyberattack by the U.S. and Israel that crippled Iran's nuclear program by sabotaging industrial equipment constituted "an act of force" and was likely illegal under international law, according to a manual commissioned by NATO's cyberwarfare center in Estonia.

### **An Old Battle And New Lives**

(Los Angeles Times) - A large U.S. military map of Husaybah, a remote city on the Iraqi border with Syria, was spread across a table in the garage of a home outside the Marine Corps base here.

### **Syrian Arsenal Has U.S. In Plight**

(Washington Post) - The suspicious attack that killed 26 people in northern Syria last week exposed the difficulty of determining whether the Syrian regime has resorted to using chemical weapons as well as the lingering uncertainty over how President Obama would respond if what he has called a "red line" is crossed.

### **Pakistan Sees Afghanistan's Karzai As Obstacle To Peace With Taliban**

(Reuters.com) - Pakistan, seen as critical to efforts to stabilize Afghanistan, is finding it difficult to work with President Hamid Karzai due to mistrust and is reaching out to others to advance the peace process, senior Pakistani Foreign Ministry officials say.

### **War Court Gets Interim Supervisor**

(Miami Herald) - The Navy's top lawyer, a political appointee who helped reform the Guantanamo war court for the Obama administration, has taken over as a top Pentagon official overseeing the Sept. 11 and USS Cole death penalty trials.

### **= Teaching The Next Generation Of Astronauts**

(Baltimore Sun) - The discussion in this Rickover Hall classroom symbolizes the academy's efforts to lure more alumni astronauts back to the campus and to maintain a leadership role in space exploration.

### **2=Blue Angels Perform Last Show For Awhile**

(MiamiHerald.com) - The Blue Angels may have performed their final exhibition for the foreseeable future.

### **=South Korea, US Sign New Military Contingency Plan In Case Of Future North Korean Attacks**

(Washingtonpost.com) - South Korea and the United States have signed a new military plan that lays out how the allies will communicate with each other and react to any future North Korean aggression.

### **. Experts: NKorea Training Teams Of 'Cyber Warriors'**

(Yahoo.com/AP) - Investigators have yet to pinpoint the culprit behind a synchronized cyberattack in South Korea last week. But in Seoul, the focus is fixed on North Korea, which South Korean security experts say has been training a team of computer-savvy "cyber warriors" as cyberspace becomes a fertile battleground in the nations' rivalry.

### **Amputee Veteran Helps Train Troops For War**

(Yahoo.com) - The group has since trained hundreds of thousands of troops in recreated scenes from Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia and other hotspots. The creators strive to make the re-enactments as jarring as possible so troops experience war first in a controlled environment, and learn not to be rattled by it.

### **A Marine Volunteers -- For A Pay Cut**

(Wall Street Journal) - It is long past time for all Americans to share in the sacrifice. Nothing should be off the table. Maintaining present comforts at the expense of future security endangers everything that veterans and their

families have fought for. Don't tell them that they fought in vain. That is what America owes.

### **Current Korean Tension Could Be A Volatile Brew**

(Stars and Stripes) - North Korea has never been short on bluster, and tensions on the Korean Peninsula are always simmering, waiting to boil. But the current confluence of events raises concerns that it wouldn't take much of a spark to set off a confrontation that could quickly spiral out

### **. Release The Torture Report**

(Washington Post) - But Langley deserves a fair public trial. Release the Senate magnum opus. Let people see the CIA's back and forth as it tried to devise an American way to compel jihadists to talk. And release the tens of thousands of pages of documents seized in the raid on Osama bin Laden. Everyone would benefit from an open, bruising assessment of the country's long war against Islamic radicalism.

### **35. America's Security, Under The Weather**

(Boston Globe) - We are not alone in our concerns. The American Security Project, a bipartisan think tank, analyzed military assessments worldwide. From China to Rwanda, Belarus to Brazil, over 70 percent of nations view climate change as a top threat to their national security.

### **In Leak Case, State Secrecy In Plain Sight**

(New York Times) - Reporters covering the government's prosecution of Pfc. Bradley Manning, who is being court-martialed for conveying secret information to WikiLeaks, have spent a year trying to pierce the veil of secrecy in what is supposed to be a public proceeding.

### **Kerry Pleads With Iraq**

(Wall Street Journal) - The strategic cost of President Obama's election-driven total withdrawal from Iraq is now becoming clearer. On Sunday Secretary of State John Kerry was reduced to pleading with Iraqi officials to search Iranian flights that fly over Iraq on their way to arming Bashar Assad's Syrian government.

### **A Meeting Long Overdue**

(Defense News) - Britain's top military leadership will meet this week with their U.S. counterparts to talk about the strategic future they face together, the first meeting of the combined chiefs since the late 1940s, sources believe. The meeting in Washington will focus on the strategic future beyond the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, a still-dangerous world in which both allies will struggle with funding cuts that will force them to shrink and sacrifice capabilities in the process.

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