

# **PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE**

## **March 2021**

John F. Schunk, Editor

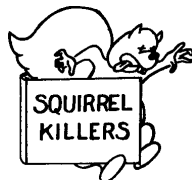
**“Resolved: On balance, the benefits of creating the United States Space Force outweigh the harms.”**

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## **SK/P01. SPACE ASSETS ARE VITAL TO U.S. INTERESTS**

### **1. SPACE DEVELOPMENT IS EXPERIENCING EXPLOSIVE GROWTH**

SK/P01.01) Marina Koren, ATLANTIC ONLINE, January 26, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. "We are a spacefaring nation, and we live in an era that will be defined by rapid, worldwide growth in space," John Raymond, the four-star general who leads the Space Force, said in a statement to The Atlantic. "The mission of the United States Space Force is to protect the national security interests of the United States."

SK/P01.02) John W. Raymond [Head, Space Force], ATLANTIC ONLINE, December 20, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Over the past five years, space has become a contested commercial and military realm. During that time, the number of active satellites in orbit has grown from 1,250 to 3,400. By 2023, there will be about 5,000 active satellites orbiting the Earth. The Satellite Industry Association estimated the 2019 global space economy at \$366 billion, and Morgan Stanley projects that revenues could top \$1 trillion by 2040.

### **2. SPACE ASSETS ARE VITAL TO U.S. MILITARY STRENGTH**

SK/P01.03) Lt. Col. Brad Townsend [Joint Staff, Pentagon], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Winter 2019, p. 11+, Gale Academic OneFile. The second foundational principle focuses on the primacy of space as an information-centric domain. It is the US military's unparalleled ability to transmit, gather, and leverage information that makes it the world's preeminent war-fighting force. Without it, US forces are severely handicapped at all levels to a degree that is not readily apparent. For the most part, the space linkages in US military systems are invisible to the user and so go underappreciated. Not so for potential US opponents. It is their recognition that US war-fighting capabilities are dependent on space systems that has spurred the current redefining of space as a war-fighting domain. No doubt the primary task for current and future space forces will be to develop methods for preserving these critical information nodes and links in the face of adversary interference or attack to preserve the US information advantage.

SK/P01.04) Helen Cooper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, June 24, 2018, p. A23, NexisUni. "Everything the U.S. military does today relies on space," said Brian Weeden, the director of program planning at the Secure World Foundation, a nongovernmental organization that studies space policy. Take drones, for instance, he said. "Their signals are routed over satellites. Data is routed over satellites. Intelligence satellites do the B.D.A. after strikes," he added, referring to battle damage assessments the military makes to determine whether targets have been destroyed.

SK/P01.05) Andrew Solender, FORBES.COM, February 2, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Although the Space Force conjures up images of Star Trek's Starfleet, the goal of the Space Force is vastly different. The official goals of the Space Force are to protect the interests of the United States in space, deter aggression in, from, and to space, and conduct space operations, argued Forbes contributor Vikram Mittal. These goals are important since space is expected to play a critical role in future conflicts.

### **3. SPACE ASSETS ARE VITAL TO U.S. WAY OF LIFE**

SK/P01.06) Jennifer Green-Lanchoney [U.S. Air Forces Europe], STATES NEWS SERVICE, February 4, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Threats in space impact more than the military; they can impact the entire world through disruption of GPS satellites, which would impact goods and services that rely on GPS capabilities such as banking, ATMs and cell phones. Space fuels our American way of life, Raymond [Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force] said. There is nothing we do that isn't enabled by space capabilities.

SK/P01.07) Charles Pope [Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs], STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 11, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Space is no longer dominated by two actors, nor is it so benevolent, Barrett [Secretary of the Air Force] said in remarks delivered to the Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies on Capitol Hill. Unlike the Cold War, when space was primarily the sole province of the United States and the Soviet Union, today many European nations plus Japan, China and India and more than 40 countries are spacefaring with satellites, probes and sometimes human travelers, she said. That reality, coupled with the critical role space plays in everyday life from transportation, commerce, communication, national security and even farming, makes freedom to access and operate in space a high priority, she said.

## **SK/P02. U.S. SPACE ASSETS FACE MULTIPLE THREATS**

### **1. U.S. SPACE ASSETS ARE INCREASINGLY VULNERABLE**

SK/P02.01) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. "There's been a dawning realization that our space systems are quite vulnerable," said Greg Grant, a Pentagon official in the Obama administration who helped devise its response to China. "The Biden administration will see more funding -- not less -- going into space defense and dealing with these threats." The protective goal is to create an American presence in orbit so resilient that, no matter how deadly the attacks, it will function well enough for the military to project power halfway around the globe in terrestrial reprisals and counterattacks.

SK/P02.02) Jim Garamone [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, May 6, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. The Space Force is needed now because potential adversaries see space as a warfighting domain, the general [Space Force Gen. John W. Raymond] noted, and the strategic environment in space has changed. "We've seen Russia maneuver a satellite with characteristics of a weapon system in proximity to a U.S. satellite," he said. Russia has also tested a direct-ascent, anti-satellite weapon. "And just in the past few weeks, Iran attempted to launch an operational satellite in making a claim for becoming a space power," he said.

SK/P02.03) THE ECONOMIST, August 16, 2020, p. 68(US), Gale Academic OneFile. But new competitors, and new technologies, mean anti-satellite warfare is a hot topic once again. China has conducted ten tests over the past 15 years, including a kinetic one in 2007 that created a great deal of space debris. India conducted its first kinetic test in 2019. America, Russia and China have all manoeuvred their satellites close to others, sometimes provocatively so. New methods of attack are being tested, including lasers and cyber-attacks.

### **2. RUSSIA & CHINA POSE THE BIGGEST THREATS**

SK/P02.04) David Vergun [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, January 22, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. In a time of conflict, DOD must deny adversaries access to space while maintaining its own freedom to maneuver in that domain, he [John E. Hyten, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff] mentioned. Russia and China are both building antisatellite weapons and other military space assets at an alarmingly fast rate, he noted. As a result, the department has to go fast in defining joint requirements and delivering capable systems to counter the threat, he said. "We accelerate because our adversaries are accelerating."

SK/P02.05) Editorial, USA TODAY, August 10, 2018, p. 7A, NexisUni. Incapacitating any of the nearly 90 U.S. military orbiters could easily blind American troops maneuvering in combat on the ground. The Chinese demonstrated in 2007 they could hit a satellite (one of their own) with a ground-fired missile. The Russians claim that they also are rushing to develop ways for interfering with orbiting platforms.

SK/P02.06) Helen Cooper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, June 24, 2018, p. A23, NexisUni. The concern about anti-satellite weaponry from Russia and China is a real one, Defense Department officials and aerospace experts say. A United States intelligence threat assessment warned in February that Russia and China would be able to shoot down American satellites in two to three years, potentially endangering GPS satellites as well as military and civilian communications satellites and the country's spy satellites. The satellites help guide aircraft carriers in the Persian Gulf, drones in the skies above Yemen and fighter jets over Syria. American ground troops on patrol in Afghanistan use GPS coordinates to track their movements, and intelligence officers at C.I.A. headquarters in Langley, Va., depend on spy satellites to gather information on adversaries.

SK/P02.07) John W. Raymond [Head, Space Force], ATLANTIC ONLINE, December 20, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. During this period of explosive growth, Russia and China have made obvious their intention to challenge American preeminence in commercial and military space and to prevent the U.S. from using its space capabilities in crisis and conflict, raising the prospect of war beginning in, or extending into, space.

### **3. THREATS FROM RUSSIA AND CHINA NECESSITATE U.S. SPACE FORCE**

SK/P02.08) David Vergun [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, January 22, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Threats by Russia and China to deny U.S. access and capability in space make the Space Force critical to national security, said the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Air Force Gen. John E. Hyten, spoke at an online National Security Space Association "Space Time" event today. Critical space assets include GPS; missile warning; reconnaissance; and position, navigation and timing. "Russia and China are building capabilities to challenge us in space because if they can challenge us in space, they understand as dependent as we are in space capabilities that they can challenge us as a nation," Hyten said.

SK/P02.09) Samantha Masunaga, LOS ANGELES TIMES, December 15, 2020, p. A1, NexisUni. U.S. intelligence officials have warned that China and Russia have discussed developing new electronic warfare capabilities, which could have implications for U.S. military satellite communications or GPS satellite interference. In 2007, China tested an anti-satellite weapon and destroyed one of its own inactive weather satellites. "Space Force really needed to be stood up to remain competitive with the very real threats coming from our nearest adversaries," said James Marceau, managing director of aerospace and defense at consulting firm Alvarez & Marsal, who has also served as a senior advisor to the Pentagon on major strategies including the Space Force. "We can't afford to neglect that domain."

## **SK/P03. RUSSIA THREATENS U.S. SPACE ASSETS**

### **1. RUSSIA HAS DEPLOYED POTENTIAL WEAPONS IN SPACE**

SK/P03.01) Jennifer Green-Lanchoney [U.S. Air Forces Europe], STATES NEWS SERVICE, February 4, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. There's a full spectrum of threats that we are concerned about, and it is clear that space has become a warfighting domain, said Raymond [Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force]. Everything from reversible jamming of satellites to directed energy threats lasers if you will that can blind or damage satellites. There are satellites on orbit that are very concerning, said Raymond. For example, we know that Russia launched a satellite and put it in very close proximity to one of our satellites, said Raymond. That satellite that they launched I describe it as a Russian nesting doll it opens up and sends out another satellite that has the capability to send out a projectile. We know that it is a weapons system designed to kinetically kill U.S. satellites in low-earth orbit.

SK/P03.02) Fred Weir, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, July 29, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Last week the newly-minted U.S. Space Force accused Russia of deploying a "projectile weapon" in near-Earth orbit close to a U.S. spy satellite. Though nothing was destroyed, the United States has been complaining for over a year about Russia's use of a maneuverable new breed of "inspector" satellites that can spy on U.S. satellites and might be employed as weapons.

SK/P03.03) Fred Weir, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, July 29, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. The U.S. accuses Russia of fielding a new type of vehicle, which is able to scoot around under its own power, spying on other satellites and potentially destroying them. Specifically, the discussion is about Kosmos 2543, which was launched from a larger Russian satellite, Kosmos 2542, in December 2019. The Russians insist that the new vehicle, which has snuggled up to both Russian and U.S. satellites since appearing, is just an "inspector" satellite whose job is basic reconnaissance. But earlier this month Kosmos 2543 itself disgorged a new object from its body that the U.S. Space Force judged to be some sort of projectile weapon which, firing under its own tiny engine power, could easily be used to destroy another satellite.

### **2. HOPES FOR U.S.-RUSSIAN COOPERATION ARE A PIPE DREAM**

SK/P03.04) Fred Weir, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, July 29, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. At the same time, some Russian analysts fret about the collapse of U.S.-Russian space cooperation, whose heyday was in Cold War times, but which continued until recently in connection with the International Space Station. But Russia has declined to join NASA's Artemis program, which plans to put people back on the moon by 2024. Recently the Russian space agency Roscosmos reacted angrily to President Donald Trump's April order to allow mining on the moon, even in the absence of any international treaties to regulate it. Russia has since announced that it will partner with China to build a research station on the moon, a move that will do little to resolve Earthly tensions.

### **3. RUSSIAN THREAT NECESSITATES U.S. SPACE FORCE**

SK/P03.05) Charles Pope [Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs], STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 11, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett asserted March 10 that a Russian satellite actively maneuvering suspiciously near a U.S. security satellite is the clearest sign of spaces changing nature and why creating the U.S. Space Force is necessary.



## **SK/P04. CHINA THREATENS U.S. SPACE ASSETS**

### **1. CHINESE ANTISATELLITES THREATEN U.S. SATELLITES**

SK/P04.01) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. Beijing's rush for antisatellite arms began 15 years ago. Now, it can threaten the orbital fleets that give the United States military its technological edge. Advanced weapons at China's military bases can fire warheads that smash satellites and can shoot laser beams that have a potential to blind arrays of delicate sensors. And China's cyberattacks can, at least in theory, cut off the Pentagon from contact with fleets of satellites that track enemy movements, relay communications among troops and provide information for the precise targeting of smart weapons.

### **2. ANTISATELLITES ARE NOT THE ONLY THREAT FROM CHINA**

SK/P04.02) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. But China is pushing hard. For three years in a row, it has fired more rockets into space than any other country. It is now a dominating force, analysts say. The rush includes not only antisatellite weapons but many other military and scientific projects, as suggested by its recent retrieval of moon rocks.

SK/P04.03) Steven L. Kwast [past president, Air Force's Air University], USA TODAY, March 2020, p. 50+, Gale Academic OneFile. If China stays on its current path, it will deploy nuclear propulsion technology and solar power stations in space within 10 years. This will give it the ability to beam clean energy to anyone on Earth--and the power to disable any portion of the American power grid and paralyze our military anywhere on the planet. The U.S. is developing no tools to defeat such a strategy, despite the fact that we are spending billions of dollars on exquisite 20th-century military equipment.

### **3. CHINESE THREAT NECESSITATES U.S. SPACE FORCE**

SK/P04.04) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. In 2019, the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency warned that China appeared to be deploying a new generation of extremely powerful lasers that could flash to life by the middle of this decade, putting new classes of American satellites at risk. Analysts say the Biden administration might keep the Space Force, which has bipartisan support in Congress. Military experts see its high profile as sending Beijing a clear message.

SK/P04.05) Jennifer Green-Lanchoney [U.S. Air Forces Europe], STATES NEWS SERVICE, February 4, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. China has a satellite on orbit today that has a robotic arm, and that capability could be used in the future to grapple a satellite, so we are concerned about that, said Raymond [Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force]. That's why the establishment of the U.S. Space Force is so important, so that we can stay ahead of that threat, and that is exactly what we are doing.

SK/P04.06) Steven L. Kwast [past president, Air Force's Air University], USA TODAY, March 2020, p. 50+, Gale Academic OneFile. China's plan is to profit from the multi-trillion-dollar space marketplace while simultaneously acquiring global domination. We are capable of forestalling China's plan, but only if we begin to build a Space Force soon and on the right plan.

## **SK/P05. SPACE FORCE PROTECTS U.S. SPACE ASSETS**

### **1. SPACE FORCE MISSION IS TO PROTECT U.S. ASSETS**

SK/P05.01) David Vergun [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, November 22, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Space Force Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond, the chief of space operations and commander of the U.S. Space Command, spoke at a virtual event yesterday at the Halifax International Security Forum. "We're building a Space Force not just for today, but for 100 years from now," he said. "We have to build a service that not only can do what it needs to do today, but also has the vision of where it might go." In the coming decades, there could be a commercial space economy valued at over a trillion dollars a year, he said, and there's going to be a role for enhanced security in that domain. "The role of the Space Force is to provide that stability across the domain so commercial companies and nations can flourish," he said.

SK/P05.02) Terri Moon Cronk [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, August 19, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. "Space Force is the latest and greatest thing that's going on, absolutely, here at the Pentagon," the general [Space Force Maj. Gen. Kimberly A. Crider] said. "But I would argue it's the biggest thing that's going on right now for our country in terms of the capability that we bring to bear as an independent service, to protect and defend all of the services that we depend upon every single day, coming from space."

SK/P05.03) Center for the National Interest, STATES NEWS SERVICE, December 28, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. More importantly, now that the nation's military and economic sectors are so tightly intertwined, the case for a Space Force goes beyond protecting America's space-based intelligence sensors. While the Global Positioning System (GPS) has been synonymous with precision munitions for many years, it also happens to be how the world and its financial markets keep time. Inside gps satellites lie atomic clocks with either cesium or rubidium cores, which tell time by measuring the minutest oscillations of the elements' atoms. GPS systems are quite literally the beating heart of our economy, and the slightest variation, or imbalance in it, could cause disastrous consequences to financial transactions worldwide.

### **2. SPACE FORCE WILL INCREASE U.S. MILITARY CAPABILITIES**

SK/P05.04) RAND Corporation, STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 13, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. The expectation for having a separate armed service for space is that it will create a champion within the U.S. armed forces to advocate for and develop new capabilities that can outpace current and projected military threats from space. Launching a Space Force offers the opportunity to increase U.S. military capability, particularly when the United States has to give more consideration to potential threats from other nations in space, said lead author Michael Spirtas, a senior political scientist and associate director of RAND's International Security and Defense Policy Center.

SK/P05.05) Jim Garamone [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, May 6, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Many of the American systems were designed and launched when space was a benign domain, Barrett [Air Force Secretary] said. They provide a range of capabilities that not only the U.S. military, but the civilian world takes for granted. These include the Global Positioning System, instantaneous communications, even the platform for the webinar. The systems are vulnerable to malign actors. "It is important for us to deter aggressive action against American assets," Barrett said. "But if deterrence fails, we need to be prepared to defend and, if necessary, shoot back."

SK/P05.06) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. Two years later, Mr. Trump unveiled the Space Force, prompting jokes on Twitter and late-night television and even a Netflix sitcom. But in March, the unit said it had taken possession of its first offensive weapon, calling the event historic. Based on land, the system fires energy beams to disrupt spacecraft. Lt. Col. Steve Brogan, a space combat specialist, said the acquisition "puts the 'force' in Space Force and is critical for space as a war-fighting domain."

SK/P05.07) C. Todd Lopez [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, September 15, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Raymond [Chief of Space Operations] also drew attention to verbiage on a display at the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C. On the floors of both the north and south pavilions are etched the words "Victory on Land, Victory at Sea, Victory in the Air." Now, he said, those three domains are no longer enough to ensure victory. Today's security environment, he said, requires even more of American warfighters. "I am not confident that we can achieve victory or even compete in a modern conflict, without space power," he said. "I am not willing to lose in order to learn. Today the Space Force in answering that call to compete, forging a warfighting service that is always above."

### **3. SPACE FORCE HAS ALREADY SAVED AMERICAN LIVES**

SK/P05.08) Charles Pope [Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs], STATES NEWS SERVICE, February 27, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. "Far too many people truly don't understand what space power is, what it means to national security and why Space Force is important to the nation," Thompson [vice commander, U.S.Space Force] said. To fill the void, Thompson provided some of the most specific details to date of why a Space Force is necessary. Among the most compelling occurred at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, in early January, when a missile warning crew assigned to the Space Force provided crucial early warning to Al Asad Air Force Base in Iraq that a missile attack was underway. The attack came in response to a Jan. 2 U.S. strike that killed Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassim Suleimani. Space professionals at Buckley AFB detected the launch and one crew member quickly relayed the information. "If she had not done her job better than her training, if she had not detected that launch, determined where it was, where it was going and who was under threat and released warning messages that got to the 300 plus Americans at Al Asad Air Base, I'm firmly convinced we'd be talking today about dead Americans," Thompson said.

SK/P05.09) iOTWreport, NEWSTEX BLOGS, January 9, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The newly-created U.S. Space Force played a major role in saving the lives of American and coalition forces at a base in Iraq through early detection of incoming Iranian ballistic missiles last year, said a report published Thursday. C4ISRNet reported that the Iranian attack in January 2020, which came in response to President Donald Trump's targeting of Revolutionary Guards commander Gen. Qasem Soleimani days earlier, was detected by the Space-Based Infrared System, 'a constellation of satellites that surveils Earth's surface 24/7 to detect missiles.' Iran fired more than a dozen missiles at the base, and while 110 personnel were subsequently treated for traumatic brain injuries, no one was killed. Early detection of the launch by elements of the Space Force's 2nd Space Warning Squadron at Buckley Air Force Base in Colorado allowed for the evacuation of some military personnel.

## **SK/P06. SPACE FORCE MUST BE INDEPENDENT**

### **1. SPACE FORCE IS AN INDEPENDENT BRANCH OF U.S. MILITARY**

SK/P06.01) Isaiah J. Soliz [Air Force Air Combat Command], STATES NEWS SERVICE, December 18, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. President Donald Trump signed the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act into law Dec. 20, 2019, establishing the U.S. Space Force as the sixth branch of the Armed Forces.

SK/P06.02) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, January 28, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Although some see it as a Trump vanity project, Space Force is not the farcical force of the public imagination. In the military, it's seen soberly as an affirmation of the need to more effectively organize for the defense of U.S. interests in space — especially satellites used for civilian and military navigation, intelligence and communication. While far smaller than any other branch of the military, Space Force is acquiring the standard trappings of a service, including an official flag, logo, seal and doctrine. It has launched commercials to attract recruits. After lengthy debate, it was decided last month that Space Force members would be called guardians, although they don't yet have an official dress uniform. The force is planning to expand its ranks from 2,400 active-duty members to 6,400 by the end of this year.

### **2. INDEPENDENCE ALLOWS BUILDING FROM THE GROUND UP**

SK/P06.03) Charles Pope [Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs], STATES NEWS SERVICE, September 15, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Noting we are on the cusp of a tectonic shift in warfare, Raymond [Chief of Space Operations] said during his keynote address on the second day of the Air Force Association 2020 Virtual Air, Space and Cyber Conference that the law creating Space Force gives us a huge opportunity to start with a clean sheet of paper to build a service from the ground up. That opportunity along with fresh thinking, he said, allows the Space Force to be purpose built to compete, deter, win and lead globally. And that is exactly what we are doing.

SK/P06.04) Charles Pope [Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs], STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 11, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. The United States Space Force represents a new approach to protecting the space domain, Barrett [Secretary of the Air Force] said. The new force allows us to build a new service in a totally new way. Our efforts in space are about preserving free access to, and use of, the space domain for all benevolent actors. We will build a rules-based international order in the space domain, inclusive of economic and military capabilities while deterring hostile actions.

### **3. INDEPENDENCE ASSURES ADEQUATE FUNDING**

SK/P06.05) Steven L. Kwast [past president, Air Force's Air University], USA TODAY, March 2020, p. 50+, Gale Academic OneFile. Congress should give the Space Force complete independence from the Air Force so that funds are not diverted from the former to the latter, and so that the Space Force is not developed as a mere support function for air power.

## **SK/P07. SPACE FORCE MUST BE SEPARATE FROM AIR FORCE**

### **1. AIR AND SPACE ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT DOMAINS**

SK/P07.01) Center for the National Interest, STATES NEWS SERVICE, December 28, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. Some officers with more practical expertise in space matters managed to make their voices heard above the partisan din. "It simply defies logic to keep that domain in the Air Force akin to having the infantry in the Navy," wrote Terry Virts, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel and former commander of the International Space Station, in an August 2018 Washington Post editorial. "Air and space are completely unrelated domains, and the equipment, techniques and culture required to operate airplanes are entirely different from those required to launch and operate in space."

### **2. AIR FORCE FAILS TO PAY SUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO SPACE**

SK/P07.02) Helen Cooper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, June 24, 2018, p. A23, NexisUni. Representatives Mike D. Rogers, Republican of Alabama, and Jim Cooper, Democrat of Tennessee, have pressed hard for the idea in Congress. They argue that a new military branch is needed because the Air Force does not pay enough attention to outer space. What's more, they say, Russia and China are developing anti-satellite weapons that could imperil American satellites.

SK/P07.03) Lt. Col. Bryan M. Titus [Deputy Commander, 30th Operations Group, Vandenberg AFB], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2020, p. 10+, Gale Academic OneFile. The decision to establish the Space Force provides an opportunity for the new service to solidify a profession of arms for the space war-fighting domain, like the war-fighting professions of the air, land, and sea. Though aspects of a space profession are evident in the Air Force, there is still room for growth. The lack of a clearly defined space profession and the Air Force's reluctance to create a space acquisition career field limited space professional development. They impacted the Air Force space programs' execution, which arguably contributed to the need for an independent space service.

SK/P07.04) Lt. Col. Bryan M. Titus [Deputy Commander, 30th Operations Group, Vandenberg AFB], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2020, p. 10+, Gale Academic OneFile. 2019: The GAO questioned whether the Air Force had sufficient space expertise to manage its space programs and noted that the space acquisition workforce was not routinely monitored. President Trump directed the establishment of the Space Force.

### **3. SPACE WILL NEVER BE TOP PRIORITY IN THE AIR FORCE**

SK/P07.05) Helen Cooper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, June 24, 2018, p. A23, NexisUni. But critics of the Air Force say that it will never make space its top priority when it also has pilots and warplanes to worry about. And "we keep buying these big expensive satellites that are juicy targets for our adversaries," said Todd Harrison, the director of the Aerospace Security Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Meanwhile, our existing space forces are fragmented across our military."

SK/P07.06) Lt. Col. Bryan M. Titus [Deputy Commander, 30th Operations Group, Vandenberg AFB], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2020, p. 10+, Gale Academic OneFile. Concern for the management of the space acquisition workforce is a recurring theme, related to the cost and schedule challenges experienced by several major space programs. Since 2001, Air Force programs that provide missile warning, satellite communications, and satellite navigation breached Nunn-McCurdy acquisition thresholds multiple times, and yet, the Air Force never created a space acquisition career field. Dr. John Stopher, a former space policy advisor to the Secretary of the Air Force, noted that the Air Force's space acquisition challenges were used as justification for creating the Space Force.

SK/P07.07) NATIONAL REVIEW, September 10, 2018, p. 7, Gale Academic OneFile. President Trump's enthusiasm for a Space Force that would be a sixth branch of the military occasioned much mockery, but it's a sound idea that has been percolating within the government for a while now. In any major war, Russia or China would target our assets in space, and we must take this realm of conflict seriously. The Air Force, which houses the current Space Command, is opposed to the idea for the usual reasons of bureaucratic turf protection. But the Air Force's main priority is always going to be flying planes. Space is a new war-fighting domain that should have a branch devoted to mastering it.



## **SK/P08. SPACE FORCE GIVES NECESSARY PRIORITY TO SPACE**

### **1. SPACE FORCE PUTS APPROPRIATE FOCUS ON SPACE**

SK/P08.01) Maj. Gen. Thomas Taverney [former Vice Commander, Air Force Space Command], inFOCUS, Winter 2019, p. 28+, Gale Academic OneFile. Establishing a Space Force is not only about providing effects from space, it is about focus. If your raison d'etre is space, you wake up in the morning and go to bed at night thinking of space and only space. You develop people with a career of experience in space, but also with a strong set of warfighter experiences. Space professionals need to understand the criticality of their systems to the warfighter and gain experience in how they are used.

SK/P08.02) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 1, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. Critics have questioned the need to create a Space Force as a separate military service, noting that there are relatively small numbers of people required to carry out space-related missions. The Pentagon argues that a separate service will give space issues a stronger voice within the military and create a special space culture and expertise.

### **2. SPACE FORCE BREEDS ENTHUSIASM AND RECRUITMENT**

SK/P08.03) Christina Morales, THE NEW YORK TIMES, December 20, 2020, p. A20, NexisUni. Overseen by the Air Force, the United States Space Force was created to protect American interests in outer space. In 2018, President Trump directed the Pentagon to establish a sixth branch of the armed forces to monitor commercial traffic and debris, initiatives he said would be "great not only in terms of jobs and everything else, it's great for the psyche of our country."

SK/P08.04) Isaiah J. Soliz [Air Force Air Combat Command], STATES NEWS SERVICE, December 18, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Carol Padilla, 99th Force Support Squadron Child and Youth Education Services school liaison, said children are the future and highlighted the importance of developing future scientists, astronauts and engineers. The feedback from the youth and adults involved has been positive, said Padilla. It has peaked the children's interest, and now they are aware of the Space Force and how it is related to their lives. I believe it has sparked new energy into STEM and the youth are excited.

SK/P08.05) THE ECONOMIST, September 7, 2019, p. 29(US), Gale Academic OneFile. "When people join the marines, it's not about joining the navy," says Stephen Kitay, deputy assistant secretary of defence for space policy. "Somebody joins the marines and that's in their culture and DNA and ethos. And we're looking to create that for space."

### **3. MANPOWER TRANSITIONS ARE WELL UNDER WAY**

SK/P08.06) Jennifer Green-Lanchoney [U.S. Air Forces Europe], STATES NEWS SERVICE, February 4, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. According to Raymond [Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force], U.S. Space Force will increase in number dramatically by summer as we continue to transition Guardians into the service. We've selected about 6,400 Airmen who will transition over to be Guardians in the Space Force, said Raymond. Today we have approximately 2,400 Guardians, and over the course of the next few months we'll continue to transfer the remaining Airmen. We have about 10,000 civilians assigned to Space Force, as well. By summer, Space Force will be at about 16,000 of both active duty and civilian personnel.

SK/P08.07) Jim Garamone [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, January 5, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The U.S. Space Force celebrated its first anniversary on Dec. 20. There are now roughly 2,300 uniformed members of the new force and it is projected to grow to around 6,500. Currently, there are about 100 new accessions in the service, and the remainder of the military members transferred from the Air Force. This year, the service will transfer about 3,500 more members from the Air Force and begin merging personnel from the other services into their units. There are currently 16,000 military and civilians assigned to the Space Force, and that number is expected to grow to about 20,000 in the next couple of years.

## **SK/P09. SPACE FORCE AVOIDS BUREAUCRATIC PITFALLS**

### **1. SPACE CHALLENGES REQUIRE QUICK DECISION-MAKING**

SK/P09.01) Charles Pope [Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs], STATES NEWS SERVICE, September 15, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Direct ascent anti-satellite missiles can reach low earth orbit in minutes. Electronic attacks and directed energy weapons move at the speed of light, and on-orbit capabilities move at speeds greater than 17,500 mph, Raymond [Chief of Space Operations] said. To plan for warfare at these speeds and distances we must be lean, agile and fast. The need to be nimble is why Raymond highlighted efforts to suppress any move toward a bloated bureaucracy. The goal, he said, is shortening the distance between decision makers and you, the experts conducting our mission.

SK/P09.02) U.S. Department of Defense, STATES NEWS SERVICE, November 18, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Space Force Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond, chief of space operations, spoke today about the Space Force at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics conference. "We anticipate adversaries will try to degrade or destroy our space capabilities, denying the advantages that they provide," he said, mentioning Russia and China, which have cyber jammers, lasers and missiles that can take out satellites. To better compete, the command places a premium on speed. "We know a conflict that begins or extends into space over vast distances at tremendous speeds." he said, noting that anti-satellite missiles can reach low-Earth orbit in a matter of minutes, moving at speeds of over 17,500 mph. Raymond also mentioned that big organizations move slowly, and the Space Force and Space Command have to stay "lean, agile and fast."

### **2. SPACE FORCE ELIMINATES UNNECESSARY BUREAUCRACY**

SK/P09.03) U.S. Department of Defense, STATES NEWS SERVICE, November 18, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. And, the Space Force has also shortened the decision-making process by removing unnecessary layers of bureaucracy and shortening the acquisition process, he [Space Force Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond, chief of space operations] added. For instance, this year, the service brought in 50 software coders and then secured over 6,000 licenses to be used for defense software innovation.

SK/P09.04) Jim Garamone [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, January 5, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The entire Space Force will be about the same size as a Marine Corps division. The Space Force wants to be small to be agile and flexible. Towberman [first U.S. Space Force senior adviser] sees small teams being the core of the service's future. Space Force aims to eliminate layers of command where possible, and emphasize being agile and quick, the chief said.

SK/P09.05) John W. Raymond [Head, Space Force], ATLANTIC ONLINE, December 20, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. A year ago, to deal with these challenges, the United States created its first new independent military branch in more than half a century. The U.S. Space Force, which I am privileged to lead, is a new kind of service. The Space Force headquarters at the Pentagon will have about 600 military and civilian members in a building that houses more than 20,000 Defense Department employees. Only by staying lean, agile, and tightly focused on our mission can we succeed in protecting the United States.

## **SK/P10. SPACE FORCE FACILITATES INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

### **1. SPACE FORCE IS PARTNERING WITH OTHER COUNTRIES**

SK/P10.01) U.S. Department of Defense, IMPACT NEWS SERVICE, January 18, 2021, 7pNA, NexisUni. Traditional Space Force partners have been Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand, he [Space Force Gen. David D. Thompson, vice chief of space operations] said. Over the last few years, partnerships with France, Germany, Japan and South Korea have been expanding, along with a number of NATO nations such as Norway. Partnerships with Brazil, Argentina, Chile and other nations, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region are also on the horizon.

SK/P10.02) C. Todd Lopez [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, September 15, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. As part of partnership development, he [Chief of Space Operations Gen. John W. Raymond] said the Space Force established a chief partnership office at the Space and Missile System Center, and that team is working to expand space partnerships with nations such as Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, France and Germany.

SK/P10.03) David Vergun [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, October 27, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Partnerships with allies and partners is also important, Raymond [Gen. John W. "Jay" Raymond, the chief of space operations and commander of the U.S. Space Command] said. For instance, the Defense Department trains with partners, shares data with partners, and operations centers are even inter-connected. The Space Force has even put military payloads on Norwegian and Japanese satellites.

### **2. INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS STEM DUPLICATION OF EFFORT**

SK/P10.04) David Vergun [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, July 24, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. One of the notable values the Space Force will bring to the American people is unity of effort and cost savings, he [Gen. John W. Raymond, chief of space operations of the Space Force] said, noting that there are many organizations, allies and partners doing work involved in the space domain. The Space Force is looking to avoid duplication of effort. As an example, the Defense Department needed to have two satellites in polar orbit. Raymond said his organization found that Norway was already involved in doing just that, so the U.S. partnered with its NATO ally to put payloads on their rockets.

## **SK/P11. SPACE FORCE DOESN'T INCREASE RISK OF WAR**

### **1. SPACE IS ALREADY MILITARIZED**

SK/P11.01) Maj. Gen. Thomas Taverney [former Vice Commander, Air Force Space Command], inFOCUS, Winter 2019, p. 28+, Gale Academic OneFile. Congressman Jim Cooper (D-TN) said, "Some have argued that the U.S. taking a more belligerent approach to space could encourage a new arms race. But this notion is uninformed. Space is already a war-fighting domain. Pretending our satellites are safe right now is foolish."

### **2. SPACE FORCE WON'T PUT COMBAT TROOPS IN SPACE**

SK/P11.02) THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, January 9, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. For the military, Space Force answers a need to more effectively organize for the defense of U.S. interests in space — especially satellites used for navigation and communication. A Pentagon report asserted that China and Russia have embarked on major efforts to develop technologies that could allow them to disrupt or destroy American and allied satellites in a crisis or conflict. Space Force is not designed or intended to put combat troops in space.

### **3. U.S. CANNOT AFFORD TO WAIT UNTIL CRISIS COMPELS ACTION**

SK/P11.03) John W. Raymond [Head, Space Force], ATLANTIC ONLINE, December 20, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Creating the U.S. Space Force before a national-security crisis compelled its formation gives the nation's newest military branch the time and breathing room it needs to organize quickly but methodically. In the year we have spent standing up the nation's newest service, space has grown more crowded, more contested, and more vital to our economy and national security. Anyone who has used a traffic app on a smartphone or a virtual platform for a meeting has seen the ways in which space-based networks govern our daily lives, from commerce to communication.

### **4. PEACE ONLY COMES THROUGH MILITARY STRENGTH**

SK/P11.04) Mike Pence [former Vice-President], USA TODAY, August 10, 2018, p. 7A, NexisUni. America will always seek peace in space as on the Earth. But history proves that peace only comes through strength. And in the realm of outer space, the United States Space Force will be that strength in the years ahead. Our nation's armed forces have always been the vanguard of advancing American leadership here on Earth and beyond. And the Space Force is the next and the natural evolution of American military strength.

## **SK/P12. NON-MILITARY ACTIVITIES ARE COST-BENEFICIAL**

### **1. SPACE FORCE PROVIDES NON-MILITARY BENEFITS**

SK/P12.01) John W. Raymond [Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force], STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 27, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. There is nothing we do as a joint force that isn't enabled by space. The response to this crisis is no exception. The United States Space Force and the United States Space Command are working tirelessly to support the whole-of-government approach to COVID-19. From satellite communications to position, navigation, and timing to weather, climate predictions consistent with Secretary Esper's recent comments, we are all in on a whole-of-government approach. As an example, forces assigned to U.S. Space Command optimize our wideband satellite constellation to provide essential additional bandwidth in response to requests from the USNS Mercy as it heads to Los Angeles to provide much-needed assistance to regional hospitals treating coronavirus patients.

SK/P12.02) David Vergun [Department of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, July 24, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Although U.S. Space Command was stood up on Aug. 29 and the Space Force stood up Dec. 20, significant advances have already been made, he [Gen. John W. Raymond, chief of space operations of the Space Force] said. The Space Force was involved in launching the X-37 Orbital Test Vehicle, the Advanced Extremely High Frequency communications satellite, GPS satellites, and other launches out of Cape Canaveral, Florida, he said. The newest service also supports the first human space flight since the end of the space shuttle era.

SK/P12.03) Andrew Solender, FORBES.COM, February 2, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. A Space Force team is studying the possibility of developing a tactical intelligence satellite, according to the Chief of Space Operations. Asked today during a Defense Writers Group virtual event whether the mission resides within the Space Force's portfolio, Gen. John Raymond said though the mission has traditionally fallen to the intelligence community, the service is exploring whether it can develop a low-cost, small satellite to contribute to the broader capability.

### **2. COST OF SPACE FORCE IS EXAGGERATED**

SK/P12.04) Maj. Gen. Thomas Taverney [former Vice Commander, Air Force Space Command], inFOCUS, Winter 2019, p. 28+, Gale Academic OneFile. The best argument against forming a Space Force is the cost; that it is better to spend our Defense Department dollars on equipment, systems, and training. This is certainly a valid argument. However, using the only number that currently exists (provided by Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson), the cost would be on the order of one half of one percent of the Defense Department budget. And, indeed there may even be ways to lower this estimated cost with a more efficient organization.

## **SK/P13. SPACE FORCE IS WIDELY SUPPORTED**

### **1. SPACE FORCE HAS STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT**

SK/P13.01) Graeme Massie, THE INDEPENDENT (United Kingdom), February 4, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Space Force, which has a 2021 budget of \$15.4 billion, enjoys bipartisan support and there is increasing wariness about China and Russia developing technology to target US satellites in space. "Russia and China are building capabilities to challenge us in space because if they can challenge us in space, they understand as dependent as we are in space capabilities that they can challenge us as a nation," said the Air Force's General John Hyten during an event with the National Security Space Association.

### **2. NON-PARTISAN AGENCIES SUPPORT SPACE FORCE**

SK/P13.02) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, January 28, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The nonpartisan Secure World Foundation, which advocates for the peaceful and sustainable use of outer space, has urged Biden to build on the space policy decisions of the Trump administration, including Space Force. "Consistency across key national space efforts ... will help move the United States forward and demonstrate stability to international partners by avoiding the constant reset and lack of strategic direction that has happened in the past during presidential transitions," it said in a report last month.

SK/P13.03) RAND Corporation, STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 13, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. To meet the goals of the U.S. Space Force most space activities in the Department of Defense should be moved into the new service, according to a new report from the nonprofit, nonpartisan RAND Corporation.

### **3. U.S. AIR FORCE SUPPORTS SPACE FORCE**

SK/P13.04) Jim Garamone [U.S. Dept. of Defense], STATES NEWS SERVICE, January 5, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Space Force is a separate service under the Department of the Air Force and like the Marine Corps to the Navy will look to the Air Force for support. Medical, personnel, security and administration and more will all come from the Air Force.

### **4. PRESIDENT BIDEN SUPPORTS THE SPACE FORCE**

SK/P13.05) Darlene Superville, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, February 3, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The White House on Wednesday offered "full support" for Space Force, a day after the president's chief spokesperson provoked a backlash with seemingly dismissive comments about the Trump-era addition to the U.S. military. "They absolutely have the full support of the Biden administration," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said at a briefing when asked if President Joe Biden backed the newest branch of the military branch or whether he would take steps to try to eliminate or diminish it. "We are not revisiting the decision to establish the Space Force," she said.



## **5. SPACE FORCE IS HERE TO STAY**

SK/P13.06) Marina Koren, ATLANTIC ONLINE, January 26, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. In the last year, the Space Force has slowly transformed into a real military service. The branch, which primarily oversees satellite operations, has debuted its own seal, organizational structure, and terminology. It has already deployed its first troops-not into space, but to the Middle East, where they'll support combat operations that rely on space systems. Abolishing the force would require an act of Congress, and the legislature doesn't seem to have an appetite for that. At Biden's inauguration ceremony, the Space Force flag appeared on the Capitol along with the flag of the other armed forces. "Nobody's debating whether the Space Force should exist," Jared Zambrano-Stout, an aerospace consultant and a former chief of staff for the Trump administration's National Space Council, told me. "They're debating about what it should be doing."

SK/P13.07) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, January 28, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The reason Space Force is unlikely to go away is largely this: Elimination would require an act of Congress, where a bipartisan consensus holds that America's increasing reliance on space is a worrying vulnerability that is best addressed by a branch of the military focused exclusively on this problem. The new service also is linked to an increasing U.S. wariness of China, which is developing capabilities to threaten U.S. satellites in space and which has become, in the minds of some, the singular national security challenge. Russia, too, stands accused by Washington of seeking to challenge American dominance in space. "They're building capabilities to use space against us. We have to be able to respond to that," Gen. John Hyten, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the National Security Space Association, an advocacy group, last week, referring to Russia and China.

## **SK/C01. THREATS IN SPACE DON'T JUSTIFY SPACE FORCE**

### **1. DETERRENCE HAS WORKED FOR DECADES**

SK/C01.01) Christopher Buckley, SPECTATOR, June 30, 2018, p. 20+, Gale Academic OneFile. Would the Chinese, or the Russians, dare to attack one of our satellites, knowing that it would invite retaliation? The principle of deterrence has been validated by more than 70 years of keeping the major powers from annihilating each other.

### **2. NO MILITARY THREAT JUSTIFIES A NEW BRANCH OF U.S. MILITARY**

SK/C01.02) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. A prerequisite to creating a new armed service are arms, and the ability of those arms to achieve military effects commensurate with those of the other armed services. Currently, however, there are no arms in space, nor military capability proportionate with the other armed services. Until such time as Congress has debated and addressed constraints to fully-weaponized space capability and matured space warfare theory and concepts of operation, establishing a separate space armed force will be premature.

SK/C01.03) Helen Cooper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, June 24, 2018, p. A23, NexisUni. "At a time when we are trying to integrate the department's joint warfighting functions, I do not wish to add a separate service that would likely present a narrower and even parochial approach to space operations," Mr. Mattis said in a letter to Representative Michael R. Turner, Republican of Ohio and the chairman of the House Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee.

### **3. CONDITIONS FOR CREATION OF AIR FORCE WERE DIFFERENT**

SK/C01.04) Lt. Col. Jonathan Whitney [Acting Chief, Space Control Division, Pentagon] et al., AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2019, p. 83+, Gale Academic OneFile. The last time an independent branch was created was when the Air Force separated from the Army in 1947. But the USAF relied on the almost two decades that the leadership had between World War I and II to develop their airpower strategy and technology.

### **4. SPACE FORCE WON'T PROTECT VULNERABLE SATELLITES**

SK/C01.05) Tom Vanden Brook, USA TODAY, July 13, 2018, p. 4A, NexisUni. "There are no imperial battle cruisers in the Pentagon's space posture, just a collection of highly vulnerable satellites," Thompson [Lexington Institute] said. "The Space Force proposal will get in the way of making them more resilient."

## **5. SPACE FORCE INCREASES RISK OF LOSING CONVENTIONAL WAR**

SK/C01.06) THE ECONOMIST, September 7, 2019, p. 29(US), Gale Academic OneFile. Mr Weeden [Secure World Foundation] also worries that a dedicated command might encourage those fixated on "future battles in space"--satellite-on-satellite combat--rather than the more pressing task of using devices orbiting Earth to help commanders wage war on its surface, such as by sharpening GPS signals or redirecting spy satellites.

## **SK/C02. SPACE FORCE LACKS REAL SUBSTANCE**

### **1. SPACE FORCE IS A TRUMP VANITY PROJECT**

SK/C02.01) Khaleda Rahman, NEWSWEEK.COM, February 3, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Biden has yet to comment publicly on his intentions with Space Force, but eliminating it would require an act of Congress. Trump launched the military branch in December 2019, saying space is the "world's new war-fighting domain." Though founded with bipartisan support, the specialized force was viewed by some as a Trump vanity project and criticized by progressive lawmakers as a waste of resources.

SK/C02.02) Marina Koren, ATLANTIC ONLINE, January 26, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The Space Command is not the same thing as the Space Force, which was created in 2019 (and which, by the way, is not the same thing as NASA, either). The Space Force trains service members, some of whom serve under Space Command. But in Trump's mind, they are wrapped up together, as one of his signature accomplishments. Space is cool and flashy, and who doesn't love Mars? When Trump mentioned the Space Force at a rally, the crowd erupted in cheers. A new Space Command headquarters would, in theory, help cement part of his legacy-Trump, the president who made space great again.

### **2. SPACE FORCE STARTED AS A BAD JOKE**

SK/C02.03) Christopher Buckley, SPECTATOR, June 30, 2018, p. 20+, Gale Academic OneFile. Some months ago, to an audience of Marines--who always sit up at attention--Mr Trump revealed that his inspiration came from that most reliable of quarters: himself. 'You know,' he told them, 'I was saying it the other day--because we're doing a tremendous amount of work in space--I said, "Maybe we need a new force, we'll call it the space force." And I was not really serious, and then I said, "What a great idea. Maybe we'll have to do that. That could happen."

SK/C02.04) Christopher Buckley, SPECTATOR, June 30, 2018, p. 20+, Gale Academic OneFile. The Wall Street Journal, generally favourable to Mr Trump, reported that his announcement resulted from a fit of pique. He had asked the Pentagon to create a space force months ago. When they didn't, he went--as is his wont--rogue, and simply announced it as a fait accompli.

### **3. SPACE FORCE IS JUST A RESHUFFLING OF PERSONNEL**

SK/C02.05) Marina Koren, ATLANTIC ONLINE, January 26, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. The Space Force has always been more boring than its name implies, amounting to some organizational reshuffling of Air Force personnel and operations. But Trump has used it to fuel his own vision of American bravado, which his supporters have adopted.

SK/C02.06) Christopher Buckley, SPECTATOR, June 30, 2018, p. 20+, Gale Academic OneFile. Ken Adelman was head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency under Ronald Reagan. He was there in Reykjavik when Reagan refused to give up his Strategic Defense Initiative (missile defence, essentially). He now teaches Shakespeare. 'I'm not big on government organisation,' he says, 'since everyone then focuses on what desks are moved, parking spots, org charts, etc. If the administration were competent, which no one even suspects any more, it would tighten security of satellites by presidential or Sec Def [Secretary of Defense] edict rather than the chaos of a re-org. But this administration always prefers chaos to safety.'

#### **4. SPACE FORCE IS MORE BRAVADO THAN SUBSTANCE**

SK/C02.07) Marina Koren, ATLANTIC ONLINE, January 26, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. Despite Trump's sweeping rhetoric, which conjured images of space cadets battling enemies in orbit, the organization was mostly a shiny rebrand. In public, Trump avoided the full truth of the final product-that the Space Force would operate within the Department of the Air Force rather than stand alone, that Congress stipulated that its workforce must be built from existing Air Force personnel. But for a salesman like Trump, the appearance of the thing was more important than its substance.

SK/C02.08) Marina Koren, ATLANTIC ONLINE, January 26, 2021, pNA, NexisUni. In true Trump fashion, the Space Force's public image became an exercise in exaggeration. Recruitment ads beckoned prospective guardians-as Space Force members are called-to consider that "maybe your purpose on this planet isn't on this planet," painting an entirely unrealistic picture of the work. "Let's face it: If you're a Space Force person, you're going to be in a room monitoring satellites," says Victoria Samson, a military-space expert at the Secure World Foundation, which has briefed the Biden team on national space issues. "There's nothing wrong with that, but it's definitely not as sexy as Starship Troopers going into space."

#### **5. SPACE FORCE IS AS REALISTIC AS FANTASY BORDER WALL**

SK/C02.09) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, October 20, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. William D. Hartung, director of the arms and security project at the Center for International Policy and a longtime Pentagon critic, has written that "Space Force" could become the rhetorical equivalent of "the Wall" - "a big idea that appeals to Trump's base but would be wildly impractical and hugely expensive to implement."

## **SK/C03. BENEFITS OF SPACE FORCE ARE ILLUSORY**

### **1. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF SPACE FORCE EFFICACY**

SK/C03.01) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, April 11, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. The sharpest criticism came from Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, who is a candidate for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination. "None of the ideas I've heard today clearly spell out how a Space Force leads to improved security in space," she said. "Instead, all I see is how a new Space Force will create one more organization to ask Congress for money. And there is no reason to believe that adding an entirely new Space Force bureaucracy and pouring buckets more money into it is going to reduce our overall vulnerability in space. I think the taxpayers deserve better than this."

SK/C03.02) Steven L. Kwast [past president, Air Force's Air University], USA TODAY, March 2020, p. 50+, Gale Academic OneFile. Since that time, entrenched bureaucrats and military leaders across the Department of Defense, especially in the Air Force, have been resisting the President's directive in every way they can and, in December 2019, although Congress voted to approve a Space Force, it did so while placing restrictions on it--such as that the Space Force be built with existing forces--that will render it largely useless in any future conflicts.

### **2. SPACE FORCE WON'T PRODUCE ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

SK/C03.03) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, October 20, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Tom Nichols, an author and professor of national security affairs at the U.S. Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island, said no one should think a Space Force will produce an economic windfall of space contracts. "People who think a 'space force' will create a new economic boom don't realize that our space infrastructure already exists," he wrote an email, stressing that he was speaking in a private capacity. "Any additional spending will likely be concentrated in research and knowledge-centric areas, not depressed manufacturing states." More to the point, he wrote, new weaponry is not in the offing.

### **3. A SEPARATE BRAMCH IS NOT THE ANSWER TO LACK OF FUNDING**

SK/C03.04) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, August 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Deborah James, who was the civilian leader of the Air Force for the final three years of the Obama administration, said at a think tank forum Monday that creating a separate Space Force does not address the legitimate concerns about U.S. space defenses. One of the criticisms of the Air Force, which is the primary service responsible for military satellites, is that it devotes too little money and attention to space. "If money is your issue, Space Force is not your answer," she said. If the logic of creating a separate space service were applied broadly, she said, it would imply other radical changes such as creating a single nuclear service by combining management of the strategic nuclear weapons of the Air Force and Navy, which no one is considering.

## **SK/C04. AIR FORCE CAN PROTECT SPACE ASSETS**

### **1. AIR AND SPACE ARE INSEPARABLE FIELD OF OPERATION**

SK/C04.01) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. More than 60 years ago, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Thomas D. White said it well: "Air and space are not two separate media to be divided by a line and to be readily separated into two distinct categories; they are in truth a single indivisible field of operations." That is no less true today than it was in 1958.

SK/C04.02) Samantha Masunaga, LOS ANGELES TIMES, December 15, 2020, p. A1, NexisUni. Compared with the budgets and personnel for the other branches of the U.S. military, the Space Force is lean. And technically it's part of the Air Force, just as the Marine Corps is part of the Navy.

### **2. AIR FORCE PUTS APPROPRIATE FOCUS ON SPACE**

SK/C04.03) Tom Vanden Brook, USA TODAY, July 13, 2018, p. 4A, NexisUni. "The president's timing on proposing a Space Force is odd," he [Loren Thompson, Lexington Institute] said. "The Air Force is devoting more of its money and intellectual capital to space today than ever before. It certainly isn't neglecting space."

### **3. AIR FORCE CAN PROTECT U.S. SATELLITES**

SK/C04.04) Helen Cooper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, June 24, 2018, p. A23, NexisUni. Before Mr. Trump gave his order on Monday, Pentagon officials maintained that the Air Force and other services could protect military satellites. When Congress was considering a space corps last year, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said he did not want to add "additional organizational and administrative tail" to the military.

SK/C04.05) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, August 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. In an interim report to Congress in March on ways to reorganize its space organizations, the Pentagon said it is making changes to "ensure that we are prepared for" potential conflicts in space. This includes making satellites more resilient to potential attack by Russia or China.

SK/C04.06) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, April 11, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. Committee members agreed that the U.S. needs to innovate in space and move more quickly to improve defenses of U.S. satellites and other interests in space. But several members, both Republicans and Democrats, expressed skepticism about a Space Force, which is a high priority of President Donald Trump. Sen. Angus King, an Independent from Maine, said he thinks the current approach, with the Air Force handling the bulk of space responsibilities, is working well.

SK/C04.07) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, August 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. The Pentagon acknowledges a need to revamp its much-criticized approach to defending U.S. economic and security interests in space, and it is moving in that direction. But it's unclear whether this will satisfy Trump, who wants to go even further by creating a separate military space service.

#### **4. REMOVING SPACE FROM AIR FORCE DOES MORE HARM THAN GOOD**

SK/C04.08) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. The U.S. Air Force has led the Armed Forces in establishing America's space capability such that it is unrivaled in the world. To split up those well-integrated air and space capabilities, which today seamlessly contribute to America's military, would result in more harm than good, creating uncertainty and unintended consequences while adding unnecessary bureaucracy and cost.

SK/C04.09) Ledyard King, USA TODAY, February 20, 2019, p. 6A, NexisUni. The Air Force, which oversees the Space Command, also initially resisted the branch, saying it was unnecessary and bureaucratic. In September, a memo from Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson placed the five-year cost of establishing the new branch at about \$13billion.



## **SK/C05. ARMY AND NAVY PROTECT SPACE ASSETS**

### **1. U.S. ARMY HAS IMPORTANT SPACE COMPONENT**

SK/C05.01) Lt. Col. Jonathan Whitney [Acting Chief, Space Control Division, Pentagon] et al., AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2019, p. 83+, Gale Academic OneFile. The US Army's (USA) space mission is organized under the Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) and Army Forces Strategic Command (ARSTRAT) as component commands to USSTRATCOM. They provide satellite communications (SATCOM) by conducting satellite space control and support operations and missile defense operations for the Army, joint force, allies and partners, which enable multidomain combat effects, and the detection of strategic attacks. As the DOD's SATCOM system experts, the Army's 53rd Signal Battalion ensures access through five distributed broadband SATCOM operations centers located worldwide for active payload management for all military users in joint operations.

### **2. U.S. NAVY HAS IMPORTANT SPACE COMPONENT**

SK/C05.02) Lt. Col. Jonathan Whitney [Acting Chief, Space Control Division, Pentagon] et al., AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2019, p. 83+, Gale Academic OneFile. The US Navy (USN) integrates space capabilities through their network of Marine Operations Headquarters. Space Support Working Groups provide support to space systems and services such as data encryption, signals intelligence, information operations, cyberspace, and electronic warfare impact operations. As the DOD's lead service for narrowband SATCOM, the USN operates, manages, and maintains three satellite constellations of 12 satellites through their Navy Satellite Control Network in support of US forces, international partners, and allies. The USA and USN services represent the biggest users of space systems and have the largest numbers of user equipment.

### **3. U.S. MARINES HAVE IMPORTANT SPACE COMPONENT**

SK/C05.03) Lt. Col. Jonathan Whitney [Acting Chief, Space Control Division, Pentagon] et al., AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2019, p. 83+, Gale Academic OneFile. The US Marine Corps (USMC) integrates space capabilities and effects for use in decentralized combined arms operations conducted by a Marine air-ground task force and joint forces by having billets assigned to joint land force components, various services, and joint commands. Marine Expeditionary Forces also receive space support directly from the Army's space support elements and ARSTRAT assets.

#### **4. ARMY AND NAVY OPPOSE TRANSFER TO SPACE FORCE**

SK/C05.04) Christopher Buckley, SPECTATOR, June 30, 2018, p. 20+, Gale Academic OneFile. The army and navy, similarly already engaged in cyber and space defence, are also against it [space force]. For whatever it's worth (unclear), Trump's own Secretary of Defense, James Mattis, also thinks the idea is a clunker.

SK/C05.05) Samantha Masunaga, LOS ANGELES TIMES, December 15, 2020, p. A1, NexisUni. But there has been no progress on integrating the Army's or Navy's space missions." The last thing you want ... after all of this reorganization and creating a new military service is to continue to have the fragmentation of our space programs and space organizations across the military," said Todd Harrison, senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank. "The whole point of this was to consolidate."

SK/C05.06) Samantha Masunaga, LOS ANGELES TIMES, December 15, 2020, p. A1, NexisUni. Within the Defense Department, the Air Force has the lion's share of space programs and budget for space operations. It's responsible for supporting and maintaining satellites for GPS, missile warning and nuclear command and control, as well as paying United Launch Alliance and SpaceX to launch national security satellites. The Army and Navy also have their own space operations. Consolidating these disparate programs into the Space Force has been slow.

## **SK/C06. THERE ARE BETTER ALTERNATIVES TO SPACE FORCE**

### **1. SPACE COMMAND IS A BETTER ALTERNATIVE**

SK/C06.01) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, August 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Mattis [former Secretary of Defense], who said prior to Trump's "Space Force" announcement in June that he opposes creating a new branch of the military for space, said afterward that this would require "a lot of detailed planning." Mattis is allied on this with key Republicans on Capitol Hill including Sen. James Inhofe, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee who opposes a separate Space Force but is open to creating a Space Command. The command would coordinate the use of space forces of existing services, such as those that operate military satellites, but would not be a separate service.

SK/C06.02) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, April 11, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. A Space Force, if approved by Congress, would be the first new military service since the Air Force was created in 1947. It would be the smallest service by far, with between 15,000 and 20,000 members. Less controversial is a Pentagon plan to resurrect U.S. Space Command, which existed for many years before being eliminated in 2002. Space Command would be responsible for military operations in space, such as defending satellites, with personnel trained and equipped by the Space Force.

### **2. USSPACE-COM IS A BETTER ALTERNATIVE**

SK/C06.03) Lt. Col. Jonathan Whitney [Acting Chief, Space Control Division, Pentagon] et al., AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2019, p. 83+, Gale Academic OneFile. The most effective way to keep the US ahead of our adversaries in providing, operating, and defending space capabilities is the re-establishment of USSPACE-COM. The model to create USCYBERCOM should be used again as the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps all have space experts that can be pulled to draft the mission theory, doctrine, and strategy. Using the CCMD structure would eliminate the immediate bureaucratic minutia required for creating a new organization and would build on the existing integration and jointness of multiservice operations.

### **3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AIR FORCE FOR STATE IS BETTER**

SK/C06.04) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. The AFA [Air Force Association] recommends that the DOD stand up a new Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space who is dual-hatted as the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). This action will go a long way toward consolidating and integrating critical space-based functions necessary to ensure unfettered access to, and freedom to operate in, space, and to provide vital capabilities to joint and coalition forces. Along with properly resourcing Air Force Space Command, this is the best, and most economical, way to advance military space capabilities needed in the near to mid-term.

## **SK/C07. SPACE FORCE DOESN'T QUALIFY AS SEPARATE BRANCH**

### **1. COMBAT COMPONENT IS NECESSARY FOR A NEW MILITARY BRANCH**

SK/C07.01) Lt. Col. Brad Townsend [Joint Staff, Pentagon], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Winter 2019, p. 11+, Gale Academic OneFile. In Organizing Space Power: Conditions for Creating a US Space Force, the now-retired Lt Col Michael Martindale and Lt Gen David A. Deptula made one of the most cogently argued cases for a conditions-based approach to identifying the need for a separate space service. They identified five conditions that must be met before the creation of a separate Space Force is justified. Three of these conditions are fully or partially met--political will, a societal view of the US as a space power, and the demonstrated ability of space power to fulfill peacetime roles. However, the authors also identified two conditions that they argued remain unmet--the development of a general theory of space power and the demonstrated capability to produce direct combat effects in and from space.

SK/C07.02) Lt. Col. Brad Townsend [Joint Staff, Pentagon], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Winter 2019, p. 11+, Gale Academic OneFile. While recognition that space is an information-centric domain that supports terrestrial war fighting provides clarity of military purpose, it also creates difficulties for a separate Space Force. Martindale and Deptula's final unmet condition for a separate service--that it demonstrate the capability to produce direct combat effects in and from space--is based on the idea that airpower needed to demonstrate that direct combat effects in and from the air "significantly contributed to victory" in World War II.

### **2. SPACE FORCE LACKS A COMBAT COMPONENT**

SK/C07.03) Lt. Col. Brad Townsend [Joint Staff, Pentagon], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Winter 2019, p. 11+, Gale Academic OneFile. Martindale and Deptula are not alone in hinging their argument against a separate Space Force on this point. This same line of argument is one of the fundamental points that the Air Force Association makes against a separate Space Force. Their objections are understandable. The inability of current space forces to create direct combat effects harkens back to the earliest days of airpower when aircraft were only used for reconnaissance and seen as little more than toys. It was only after aircraft demonstrated that direct combat effects delivered from the air could directly contribute to victory that arguments for a separate Air Force gained traction.

SK/C07.04) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, August 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Weeden [Secure World Foundation] points out that creating a new service would not address what is generally seen as a need for a more coherent force to defend U.S. interests in space, since by law a service recruits, trains and equips troops but does not do combat. That is why a Space Command is being considered, since it would be the combat arm for space much as Central Command is the organization responsible for combat operations in the Middle East.

SK/C07.05) Tom Vanden Brook, USA TODAY, July 13, 2018, p. 4A, NexisUni. Critics noted that rocketing troops into space, landing them and extracting them would require enormous amounts of fuel and the lightest ship possible for efficiency. That would eliminate armor, leaving the ship vulnerable to attack. It's unclear what tasks the 13 troops with small arms could accomplish or how they would leave the places they had rocketed into.

## **SK/C08. SPACE FORCE CAUSES UNHEALTHY COMPETITION**

### **1. SPACE FORCE COMPETES FOR FUNDS**

SK/C08.01) Ledyard King, USA TODAY, February 20, 2019, p. 6A, NexisUni. Former NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe said starting a new military branch is a bad idea. "The 'Space Force' as a separate military service entity would still compete with all the other defense-related priorities for resources and leadership attention," said O'Keefe, a professor at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. "There's no reason to believe that space-related programs would fare any better than they do today under the U.S. Air Force recognizance."

SK/C08.02) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. Standing up U.S. Space Command as a functional unified combatant command focused on warfare in space is appropriate and is the best way to address threats to U.S. operations in space. It will incorporate all the U.S. military service components in a joint organization and marshal their space resources to deter and counter threats in space in accordance with established U.S. joint doctrine.<sup>2</sup> The Space Force proposal presents a resource question writ large: There is today too much mission and too few dollars for space. Standing up a separate space bureaucracy amplifies that problem by spending resources on a headquarters function, rather than on improving space operations.

SK/C08.03) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, October 20, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Would a Space Force, which has yet to be authorized by Congress, consume an intelligence agency such as the National Reconnaissance Office, responsible for building and operating reconnaissance satellites? What about the Missile Defense Agency, which runs ground-based anti-missile systems that rely on space to defend U.S. territory? Also to be determined is how it would connect, if at all, to the security policy goals of U.S. military allies and to U.S. civilian space entities to realize Trump's declared vision of "gleaming new spaceships" built to "conquer the unknown?"

### **2. SPACE FORCE WILL INCREASE TURF WARS**

SK/C08.04) Lt. Col. Bryan M. Titus [Deputy Commander, 30th Operations Group, Vandenberg AFB], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2020, p. 10+, Gale Academic OneFile. The potential for "tribalism" among space professionals may weaken the Space Force's ability to develop a cohesive space profession. There are two "tribes" within the space cadre--operators and acquirers.

SK/C08.05) THE ECONOMIST, September 7, 2019, p. 29(US), Gale Academic OneFile. Not everyone is convinced that the reorganisation is urgently needed. In an essay published in July on "War on the Rocks", a website, Brian Weeden, a former space-operations officer with the air force who is now at the Secure World Foundation, a think-tank, warned that General Raymond might wind up clashing with geographical-area commanders. If, for instance, China jams American GPS signals during a war over Taiwan, Space Command and Indo-Pacific Command may disagree on how best to respond.

SK/C08.06) Lolita C. Baldor et al., THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, June 18, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. The establishment of an independent space force was mentioned by Trump in a March speech to service members in California, but it has faced opposition since it could create an expensive new headquarters bureaucracy and trigger complex and divisive battles between the agencies that currently control part of the space mission.

## **SK/C09. SPACE FORCE CREATES A BUREAUCRATIC NIGHTMARE**

### **1. SPACE FORCE MERELY ADDS A NEW BUREAUCRACY**

SK/C09.01) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, August 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. President Donald Trump wants a Space Force, a new military service he says is needed to ensure American dominance in space. But the idea is gaining little traction at the Pentagon, where the president's defense chief, Jim Mattis, says it would add burdensome bureaucracy and unwanted costs.

SK/C09.02) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. The Vice President stated on March 1, 2019 that, "...our national-security space program is spread across more than 60 departments and agencies, resulting in a glaring lack of leadership and accountability that undermines our combatant commanders and puts our war-fighters at risk." The Space Force proposal does nothing to consolidate these stovepiped space capabilities across the federal government--it simply creates another one.

SK/C09.03) Editorial, USA TODAY, August 10, 2018, p. 7A, NexisUni. At least for now, though, cyberattacks against the United States are more urgent threats than the militarization of the final frontier, and an entirely new service branch seems unnecessary. In the past several years, the military's focus -- as Defense Secretary James Mattis noted last year in opposing the idea -- has been to better integrate existing services to reduce overhead and duplication. Outfitting a new branch would be turning that doctrine on its head, particularly if it involves cramming 10,000 to 15,000 new headquarters staff into the Pentagon or some annex to duplicate bureaucracies of the nation's five existing branches (the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy).

SK/C09.04) Seth Borenstein & Ken Thomas, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. This is more about boosting reconnaissance and cyber security than fighting in orbit, said Sean O'Keefe, who was both NASA administrator and Navy secretary under President George W. Bush. Trump's own defense secretary and Air Force secretary argued vociferously against it when members of Congress pushed it last year, O'Keefe said. You can emphasize more help for the military in space without going to the massive organizational change and expense, he said. It could be a bureaucratic nightmare, said O'Keefe, a professor at Syracuse University

### **2. MORE BUREACRACY MEANS SLOWER DEVELOPMENT**

SK/C09.05) Julian E. Barnes & Eric Schmitt, THE NEW YORK TIMES, December 25, 2018, p. A16, NexisUni. Ms. Wilson, a former member of Congress and an Air Force officer, was Mr. Shanahan's chief opponent in the battle over Space Force. She has argued that creating a new bureaucracy risks slowing down space development -- not speeding it up -- just when the United States is facing new challenges from China.



SK/C09.06) RAND Corporation, STATES NEWS SERVICE, March 13, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. The Space Force headquarters should include key functions that are essential to the independence and identity of the service, such as operational concepts and doctrine development; requirements development and advocacy; planning, programming, budgeting, and execution; and legislative liaisons and public affairs. The transfer of these functions will likely create new 'seams' between the Space Force and the other services and the organizations it supports, said Yool Kim, an author of the report and senior engineer at RAND. For example, some of these 'seams' could potentially slow operations in a kill chain that relies on sensors or communication assets in space to support kinetic attacks, reducing the capabilities of the joint force.

### **3. SPACE FORCE IS SIMPLY DUPLICATIVE**

SK/C09.07) Seth Borenstein & Ken Thomas, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. The military space program has mostly been led by the Air Force. For the past several years, the military has been flying an unmanned space plane, a lot like the retired civilian space shuttle but smaller, experts said. "It's really what we're already doing but giving elevated status to the mission," American University space expert Howard McCurdy said of Trump's proposal.

## **SK/C10. SPACE FORCE IS COSTLY AND WASTEFUL**

### **1. SPACE FORCE WILL COST BILLIONS**

SK/C10.01) Terry Atlas, ARMS CONTROL TODAY, October 2018, p. 37, Gale Academic OneFile. The initial cost to stand up President Donald Trump's envisioned Space Force would be \$3 billion, according to an Air Force estimate reported Sept. 18 by Defense News. That expense would be part of the total cost of \$13 billion over five years for the new branch of the U.S. military, according to the report. The Air Force document, which sets out a plan to transition Air Force space functions to the new command, objects to the White House proposal to create a new high-level post, assistant secretary of defense for space, to oversee the transition, according to Defense News. (See ACT, September 2018). The Air Force document estimated costs for headquarters elements, Space Force elements, additional personnel to staff a new U.S. Space Command, and construction of a new combatant command.

SK/C10.02) Robert Burns, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, September 18, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Creating a Space Force as a separate military service, as proposed by President Donald Trump, would cost an estimated \$12.9 billion in its first five years, according to a detailed Air Force plan for how to go about it.

### **2. AN INDEPENDENT BRANCH IS TOO COSTLY AND DISRUPTIVE**

SK/C10.03) Maj. Gen. Thomas Taverney [former Vice Commander, Air Force Space Command], inFOCUS, Winter 2019, p. 28+, Gale Academic OneFile. Creation of a completely separate service equivalent to the Air Force, Army, or Navy would create the greatest cost and bureaucratic disruption. A Corps or Guard may be less disruptive and costly, but still would come with a price tag. We should not create a big bureaucracy and the kind of footprint that would generate a new constellation of civilian leaders, under-secretaries, assistant secretaries, deputy assistant secretaries, their attendant staffs, and all the accompanying bureaucracy.

SK/C10.04) Karen Krieger, NATIONAL REVIEW, November 12, 2018, p. 2, Gale Academic OneFile. I thoroughly disagree with your endorsement of creating a sixth branch of the armed services, a.k.a. the "Space Force," in the Week (September 10). Don't we have enough waste, fraud, expense, and bureaucracy already with the five branches we have? How are we going to pay for it? Isn't it rather hypocritical to bemoan the national debt and our out-of-control spending while advocating another black hole for taxpayers' money? I am not suggesting that we do not need to address the military threat in space. What I am hoping is that these problems could more inexpensively be handled through an already-existing entity such as the Air Force or NASA. With a revision of their mission statement and some additional personnel, we could take care of the problem and hold down costs as well.

## **SK/C11. SPACE FORCE WILL WEAKEN U.S. AIR FORCE**

### **1. SPACE FORCE WILL DIVERT FUNDS FROM AIR FORCE**

SK/C11.01) Air Force Association, STATES NEWS SERVICE, April 10, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. The risks of a premature Space Force are significant: 1) Lack of cohesive spacepower theory will see space assets sub-optimized; 2) More personnel and money spent on space force organization will divert funding from space force operations to feed a new bureaucracy; and 3) Segregation of air and space will undermine the synergy of the well-established integrated effects of aerospace operations already resident in the U.S. Air Force.

SK/C11.02) Christopher Buckley, SPECTATOR, June 30, 2018, p. 20+, Gale Academic OneFile. Chief among those stakeholders is the air force, which is already doing what a space force would do. It hates the idea. A year ago, the secretary of the air force, Heather Wilson, was declaiming loudly against it: 'The Pentagon is complicated enough.' She added, with sub-zero sangfroid: 'If I had more money, I would put it into lethality, not bureaucracy.'

### **2. SPACE FORCE WILL RIP THE AIR FORCE APART**

SK/C11.03) Tom Vanden Brook, USA TODAY, July 13, 2018, p. 4A, NexisUni. Military analysts such as Michael O'Hanlon of the Brookings Institution argued that the force [Space Force] would probably be derived largely from the Air Force, creating two weaker organizations.

SK/C11.04) Tom Vanden Brook, USA TODAY, July 13, 2018, p. 4A, NexisUni. The new service would require congressional action, and Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., on the Armed Services Committee is skeptical. He tweeted last month that "now is NOT the time to rip the Air Force apart." "The Space Force concept is premature and will probably disrupt progress the Pentagon has been making in space," said Loren Thompson, a defense and aviation analyst with the Lexington Institute near Washington.

SK/C11.05) Samantha Masunaga, LOS ANGELES TIMES, December 15, 2020, p. A1, NexisUni. President Trump has a penchant for grandiose promises that go unfulfilled. So when he announced a plan to establish a Space Force, there was some skepticism. Then-Sen. Bill Nelson (D-Fla.), ranking member on a Senate committee that deals with aviation and space, disliked the idea of consolidating space programs from the other military branches, saying at the time that there were "too many important missions at stake" to "rip the Air Force apart."

## **SK/C12. SPACE FORCE DESTROYS ARMS CONTROL**

### **1. SPACE FORCE WILL TRIGGER DANGEROUS ARMS RACE**

SK/C12.01) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. The Biden administration has yet to indicate what it plans to do with President Donald J. Trump's legacy in this area: the Space Force, a new branch of the military that has been criticized as an expensive and ill-advised escalation that could lead to a dangerous new arms race.

SK/C12.02) Fred Weir, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, July 29, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. The Space Force is reportedly due to reveal an official doctrine for fighting war in space in the next month, something that Russian analysts warn might lead inexorably into a new space arms race. "Russia's concern isn't so much about any particular U.S. weapons or activity in space at present," says Mr. Baklitsky. "But we do worry that now there is a permanent U.S. Space Force, and it is producing its own war-fighting doctrine, that we could have an unstoppable process. This renders any effort to find strategic stability on Earth much more complicated."

SK/C12.03) International News, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, June 20, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. The Russian Foreign Ministry has expressed concern about U.S. plans to create a separate space force, saying that taking weapons into space could trigger a new arms race. President Donald Trump said Monday he is directing the Pentagon to create a new "Space Force" as a separate branch of the military aimed at ensuring American supremacy in space. Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said the move appears to signal Washington's intention to deploy weapons in space. She warned that the militarization of space "could be fraught with consequences no less harmful than the nuclear arms race."

### **2. ARMS RACE IN SPACE VIOLATES INTERNATIONAL LAW**

SK/C12.04) Terry Atlas, ARMS CONTROL TODAY, June 2018, p. 33, Gale Academic OneFile. Military activities are constrained by the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, which bans the stationing of weapons of mass destruction in outer space, prohibits military activities on celestial bodies, and details legally binding rules governing the peaceful exploration and use of space. The UN General Assembly has passed a resolution annually urging all states to refrain from actions contrary to the peaceful use of outer space and calling for negotiation in the Conference on Disarmament on a multilateral agreement to prevent an arms race in outer space.

### **3. SPACE FORCE DESTROYS ARMS CONTROL PROSPECTS WITH RUSSIA**

SK/C12.05) Lt. Col. Brad Townsend [Joint Staff, Pentagon], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Winter 2019, p. 11+, Gale Academic OneFile. Whether the PPWT is a diplomatic effort by Russia and China to gain military advantage or a genuine effort to avoid an arms race in space is impossible to judge due to the lack of meaningful US counterproposals. A US counterproposal on arms control in space would test the sincerity of Russia and China to embrace arms control. Absent this proposal, the US is largely abandoning the diplomatic element of national power in space that is a consequence of its dominant space presence.

SK/C12.06) Fred Weir, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, July 29, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. "If this process of weaponizing space gets going, it can lead to a hugely expensive and destabilizing arms race," says Vladimir Dvorkin, an expert with the Center for International Security at IMEMO, a major Russian research institution under the Russian Academy of Sciences. "Right now there are no laws against the deployment of conventional weapons in Earth orbit, either the kind that can hit other objects in space or the kind that can hit the Earth. We really need to sit down and come to an agreement."

SK/C12.07) Fred Weir, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, July 29, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. Russian analysts say that Moscow is deeply worried about the secretive U.S. military program in space, which now has an official face in the form of the U.S. Space Force, a new branch of the U.S. military. Among its missions is the operation of the mysterious X-37B, an unmanned version of the old Space Shuttle. The two ships in the U.S. squadron have already had five secret space flights, logging a total of nearly eight years in orbit. The Russians claim that the X-37B does much the same tasks that their Kosmos satellites do, including positioning maneuverable "inspector" satellites in Earth orbit.

### **4. SPACE FORCE DESTROYS ARMS CONTROL PROSPECTS WITH CHINA**

SK/C12.08) International News, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, December 23, 2019, pNA, NexisUni. Rising space power China on Monday attacked the newly created U.S. Space Force as a "direct threat to outer space peace and security." Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told reporters that China is "deeply concerned about it and resolutely opposed to it." "The relevant U.S. actions are a serious violation of the international consensus on the peaceful use of outer space, undermine global strategic balance and stability, and pose a direct threat to outer space peace and security," Geng said at a regular briefing.

## **SK/C13. SPACE FORCE INCREASES RISK OF WAR**

### **1. SPACE FORCE DESTROYS SANCTITY OF PEACE IN SPACE**

SK/C13.01) Seth Borenstein & Ken Thomas, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. He [Sean O'Keefe, former NASA Administrator] said some people may argue that a space force would "compromise the sanctity of considering space to be off limits from warfare."

SK/C13.02) Seth Borenstein & Ken Thomas, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. Massachusetts Institute of Technology astronautics professor and former NASA deputy administrator Dava Newman said she prefers space to be as peaceful as possible. "Space is for exploration and lifting up humanity," Newman said. "We should learn from our mistakes on Earth and keep space peaceful."

### **2. SPACE FORCE INCREASES RISK OF WAR**

SK/C13.03) William J. Broad, THE NEW YORK TIMES, January 25, 2021, p. A1, NexisUni. But arms controllers see the Space Force as raising global tensions and giving Beijing an excuse to accelerate its own threatening measures. Some go further and call it a precipitous move that will increase the likelihood of war.

SK/C13.04) Gregory D. Miller [Associate Professor of Leadership Studies, Air Command & Staff College, Maxwell AFB], AIR & SPACE POWER JOURNAL, Fall 2019, p. 33+, Gale Academic OneFile. There is danger in focusing too heavily on great-power competition and extending it into space. One potential consequence is the creation of a self-fulfilling prophecy through the security dilemma; by emphasizing the probability of conflict between great powers, and by enhancing military capabilities to address potential threats, a state actually increases the likelihood of conflict.

SK/C13.05) Seth Borenstein & Ken Thomas, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, March 4, 2018, pNA, NexisUni. America should create its own separate military space force, President Donald Trump mentioned in an offhand remark Tuesday that would change the course of U.S. space policy. But don't expect Captain Kirk ordering phasers set on stun, Battlestar Galactica or ray guns blazing in orbit in the near future, space experts said. And some said a military space force may make it harder to keep Earth's orbit a place of peace.

### **3. SPACE WAR WOULD BE CALAMITOUS**

SK/C13.06) THE ECONOMIST, August 16, 2020, p. 68(US), Gale Academic OneFile. Perhaps the biggest difference between space war and terrestrial war is how long the consequences can last. Much of the debris from China's 2007 test, for instance, will still be in space at the turn of the next century. The more debris, the greater the likelihood of accidental collisions with other satellites, which generates more debris in turn. Enough debris could lead to a chain reaction known as Kessler syndrome, which could render entire swathes of near-Earth space unusable for decades.

SK/C13.07) John W. Raymond [Head, Space Force], ATLANTIC ONLINE, December 20, 2020, pNA, NexisUni. We are still dealing with the fallout from China's 2007 anti-satellite test, which left a cloud of space debris that even today must be carefully tracked to avoid collision with a wide array of spacecraft, including the International Space Station. The consequences of a full-blown war in space would be far worse.