

Countdown

"The IC [Intelligence Community] assesses North Korea has produced nuclear weapons for ballistic missile delivery, to include delivery by ICBM-class missiles."—**Excerpt from a new Defense Intelligence Agency paper, *Washington Post*, Aug. 8.**

Harris Doctrine

"I don't know if those [North Korean] missiles can actually hit what they're aimed at, but like in horseshoes and hand grenades, getting close is all that's needed when you're dealing with nuclear weapons."—**Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., head of US Pacific Command, Japan-US Military Statesmen Forum, July 28.**

Getting Along

"We are more interdependent ... as services than we have been in our history. For 26 years of continuous combat since Desert Storm, we've produced a truly joint team that excels in simultaneous combat, where we often focused on sequential and deconflicted operations in the past. ... Our greatest strategic advantage in any future conflict are our allies and partners. Simply put, we have them [and] our adversaries don't."—**Gen. David L. Goldfein, USAF Chief of Staff, remarks to the Air Force Association's Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies, July 26.**

Milley the Myth Slayer

"[It is a myth that] you can win wars from afar. ... Human beings can survive horrific things from afar. ... Look at what ISIS has done for almost six months in Mosul. They're losing. They got pounded. But it took the infantry and the armor and the special operations commandos to go into that city—house by house, block by block, room by room—to clear that city. And it's taken quite a while to do it, and at high cost. What I'm telling you is, there's a myth out there that you can win from afar. To impose your political will on the enemy, it typically requires you ... to close with and destroy that enemy up close with ground forces."—**Gen. Mark A. Milley, US Army Chief of Staff, speech at National Press Club, July 27.**

Job Security

"He [Russian President Vladimir Putin] is going to be around for a long time. He's coup-proof."—**Lt. Gen. Frederick B. Hodg-**

es III, head of US Army forces in Europe, *The New York Times*, July 31.

It's the Adversary, Stupid

"There's no such thing as war in space; there's just war. There's no such thing as war in cyber; there's just war. We have to figure out how to defeat our adversaries, not to defeat the domains where they operate. You can't fall into the trap of saying 'There's a space problem, so I'll ask the space guy to go fix the space problem.' It's a problem with an adversary. I may not want to [direct] a response to a space problem in space. ... I may go a different direction. So it has to be from an adversary perspective, not a domain perspective."—**USAF Gen. John E. Hyten, head of US Strategic Command, remarks at a space symposium in Huntsville, Ala., Aug. 8, defensenews.com.**

Experience Counts

"As we see Russia bring on stealth fighters, and we see China bring on stealth fighters, we have 40 years of learning how to do this, ... how to integrate non-stealth and stealth together in packages [and] how we can hide. ... I would still say that the 40 years of training, the 40 years of operation, the 40 years of integrating, is really going to give us an advantage. ... When we brought on the F-22 for the first time, we really didn't understand how to operate a fifth generation, low-observable airplane. We still flew in visual formation when we started flying. We didn't know how to train with it."—**Retired USAF Maj. Gen. Mark A. Barrett, former F-22 pilot, remarks to AFA's Mitchell Institute, July 26.**

And Not Even a Solution ...

"Sounds like a solution in search of a problem."—**Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.), referring to House plan to carve a new "Space Corps" out of the Air Force, defensenews.com, July 22.**

Righteous Nukes

"We have stated a requirement ... to have variable yield [for nuclear weapons]. So, that is a path we're pursuing pretty quickly. ... If the only options we have now are to go with high-yield weapons that create a level of indiscriminate killing that the President can't accept, we haven't provided him with an option. ... As horrible

as nuclear war is, we do still apply some of the rules of war to it. So, a proportional reaction to an enemy's attack is actually a righteous and reasonable thing to do. ... I don't think a conventional response to a nuclear attack would be sufficient to deter the kind of people that would contemplate a nuclear attack."—**USAF Gen. Paul J. Selva, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, remarks to the Mitchell Institute, Aug. 3.**

Blowback

"I would like to see them try to kick me out of my military. You are not going to deny me my right to serve my country when I am fully qualified and able and willing to give my life. We have pilots, we have doctors, we have combat medics, we have security forces members like myself. We are everywhere in the military, and for our President to not have a military member's back ... blows my mind."—**SSgt. Logan Ireland, a transgender Air Force security forces airman, on President Trump's decision to bar transgender persons from service, *Air Force Times*, July 26.**

Culture Clash

"No one is entitled to surreptitiously fight [his or her] battles in the media by revealing sensitive government information. ... This nation must end the culture of leaks. We will investigate and seek to bring criminals to justice. We will not allow rogue anonymous sources with security clearances to sell out our country any longer."—**Attorney General Jeff Sessions, announcing a new crackdown on leaks, Aug. 4.**

Imagination Gap

"Many people have talked about military options with words like 'unimaginable.' I would probably shift that slightly and say it would be horrific, and it would be a loss of life unlike any we have experienced in our lifetimes, ... but as I've told my counterparts, both friend and foe, it is not unimaginable to have military options to respond to North Korean nuclear capability. What's unimaginable to me is allowing ... a capability that would allow a nuclear weapon to land in Denver, Colorado. That's unimaginable to me."—**USMC Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr., Chairman of JCS, Aspen Security Forum, July 22.**