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SECTION 809 PANEL

Daily Media Clips

May 22, 2018

The Section 809 Panel is a congressionally mandated panel designed to be a catalyst that restores agility and simplicity to defense acquisition through bold and effective recommendations.

Good morning! We found several articles that you may be interested in.

US Defense Budget Not That Much Bigger Than China, Russia: Gen. Milley
May 22, 2018 | Sydney J. Freedberg Jr.

It's become a commonplace to say the US spends much more on defense than any other country — but what if that's not exactly true? Inspired by something Army Chief of Staff Mark Milley said to the Senate, I pulled together some numbers that suggest America's superior spending power erodes dramatically when you compare actual purchasing power. Once you factor in how much the US military spends on pay and benefits for uniformed and civilian personnel — almost half the budget by some measures — as opposed to weapons, operations, and training, then China's defense budget may actually be bigger.

We aren't econometricians here at Breaking Defense, so our methodology is admittedly very rough. What we are good at is listening to Pentagon and Hill leaders very carefully, and I was struck by an exchange last week at a hearing of the Senate appropriations subcommittee on defense.

"I'm going to ask you all a town hall question; it's the kind of thing you might run into in any town in America," said Sen. Dick Durbin, the subcommittee's ranking Democrat. "You tell us that one of our biggest threats, greatest enemies, is Russia; turns out we read recently that Russia spends about $80 billion a year on its military…..So let me get this straight: We're spending $600, $700 billion against an enemy that's spending $80 billion. Why is this even a contest?"

Read more HERE.

Other Articles of Interest

3 ways to use the MGT Act to deliver
May 21, 2018 | Jeremy Wilcox

Pentagon struggles with change management, governance during EHR rollout, as VA looks on
May 22, 2018 | Nicole Ogrysko

NDAA would let DoD onboard new cyber officers at much higher pay grades
May 22, 2018 | Jared Serbu

Alan Chvotkin: Will new executive order on IT change anything?
May 21, 2018 | Federal Drive

Imagining a Cyber Surprise: How Might China Use Stolen OPM Records to Target Trust?
May 22, 2018 | Ian Brown

The keys to a successful cloud transition
May 21, 2018 | Federal Tech Talk

The reasons US cyber defense must up its battle rhythm
May 21, 2018 | Mark Pomerleau

Security Managers and Modernization Don't Mix…or Do They?
May 21, 2018 | Keren Cummins

Air Force Global Strike orders command-wide inventory after weapons losses at Minot
May 21, 2018 | Stephen Losey

New Documents Raise Questions About Increased Nuclear Spending
May 22, 2018 | Lydia Dennett

Navy Acquisition Can Easily Be Fixed
May 21, 2018 | Marv Langston

Army Awards Woman-Owned Small Business $76M Contract for Program Support Services
May 22, 2018 | Joanna Crews

Section 809 News

The Section 809 Panel is releasing the May Bold Bites Podcast later today. We spent time chatting with Lt Col Sam Kidd learning more about Title 10 and U.S. Code.

We will post the podcast on our Twitter, LinkedIn, and Website. Be sure to check it out!

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SECTION 809 PANEL | Streamlining & Codifying Acquisition