From: Cook, Katie
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SECTION 809 PANEL

Daily Media Clips

October 16, 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.

Interagency Task Force Rings Alarm Bells on Defense Industrial Base

October 15, 2018 | Paul Hurst, Kendall Enyard, Thomas Barletta, Fred Geldon, Michael Navarre

In early October, an Interagency Task Force led by the Department of Defense (DoD) released a report Assessing and Strengthening the Manufacturing and Defense Industrial Base and Supply Chain Resiliency of the United States (Report). The Report was prepared pursuant to the President's July 2017 Executive Order on the defense industrial base (DIB), which established the Task Force. [Steptoe's Advisory on the Executive Order is available here]. The Report echoes many of the themes in DoD's April 2018 FY 2017 Annual Defense Industrial Capabilities Report. [Steptoe's Advisory on the April DoD Report is available here.]

The Task Force (at 5, 19-44) identified five "macro forces" that present "an unprecedented set of challenges" to the DIB: Sequestration and uncertainty of government spending; decline of critical markets and suppliers; unintended consequences of government acquisition "behavior;" aggressive industrial policies of competitor nations (particularly China); and the loss of vital STEM and trade skills in the domestic work force. The Task Force concludes that taken together, these macro forces "erode the capabilities of the manufacturing and defense industrial base and threaten the Department of Defense's (DoD) ability to be ready for the 'fight tonight,' and to retool for great power competition." …

…The Task Force goes on to note that "[o]operational and information security standards and whistleblower protections are important, but nonetheless impose additional costs that may increase barriers to entry." Finally, the Task Force (at 52) states that it supports "the work of the 'Section 809' panel and development of the adaptive acquisition framework . . . to streamline and improve defense acquisition processes."

Read more HERE.

Other Articles of Interest

Microsoft, Amazon CEOs Stand By Defense Work After Google Bails on JEDI

October 15, 2018 | Frank Konkel

The Pentagon's $2 billion gamble on artificial intelligence

October 16, 2018 | Jamie McIntyre

DOD CIO Deasy calls for government to better recruit senior tech talent

October 15, 2018 | Carten Cordell

No Easy Fix for Silicon Valley Angst About Government Contracts
October 15, 2018 | Joseph Marks

Harris and L3 CEOs talk merger, divestitures and why we all should have seen this coming
October 15, 2018 | Jill Aitoro

Larry Allen: How contractors are making the most of recent federal budget [Audio]
October 15, 2018 | Federal Drive

Afghanistan Security: Some Improvements Reported in Afghan Forces' Capabilities, but Actions Needed to Enhance DOD Oversight of U.S.-Purchased Equipment
October 15, 2018 | GAO

The U.S. 'Obviously' Doesn't Want to Contain China, Mattis Says
October 16, 2018 | Blooberg

Section 809 News

Fellow readers: this is my last week working for the Section 809 Panel. I have accepted a position with the Federal Aviation Administration. No worries though- the Daily Media Clips will continue! I want to thank you all for your continued readership and positive compliments on this daily newsletter. It has been a real pleasure to work for the Section 809 Panel. – Katie Cook

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SECTION 809 PANEL | Streamlining & Codifying Acquisition