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NEGATIVE BRIEF: Service Contracting (get the Hegemony Neg brief to go with this)

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**AFF Plan cuts contracted services paid for by the Defense Department for outside work done by … whoever. Crews that clean the toilets, night watchmen at the parking lots, etc. Who knows? AFF plan doesn’t specify.**

TOPICALITY

1. Not “military”

Violation #1: All the people / jobs / money being cut by this plan are being cut from non-military personnel

Read carefully their own evidence. These are outside, outsourced service contractors, not military personal and not even Defense Department civilian employees. Their plan doesn’t reduce even 1 military commitment. It reduces a bunch of non-military things the Defense Department is paying for, like cleaning toilets in office buildings or having night watchmen at gates or parking lots.

Violation #2: Defense Budget is not synonymous with “military” There are lots of things in the Defense Budget that are not military.

Example: Vaccine research and Intelligence agencies

Elliott Negin 2020 (senior writer at the Union of Concerned Scientists, was a foreign news editor at NPR in the 1990s) It’s Time to Rein in Inflated Military Budgets) 14 Sept 2020 <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/its-time-to-rein-in-inflated-military-budgets/>

Notwithstanding efforts by the Defense Intelligence Agency’s National Center for Medical Intelligence, which [warned](https://www.newsweek.com/coronavirus-department-defense-pandemic-30-days-1489876) the White House in late February that the coronavirus would likely become a global pandemic, and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, which is [researching vaccines and funding clinical trials](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/how-a-secretive-pentagon-agency-seeded-the-ground-for-a-rapid-coronavirus-cure/2020/07/30/ad1853c4-c778-11ea-a9d3-74640f25b953_story.html), the military was unable to prevent the pandemic and—aside from treating veterans with COVID-19—has been of little use to the civilian health care system in combating it.

Example: "Defense Budget" includes intelligence agencies

Michael E. DeVine 2019 (Analyst in Intelligence and National Security, Congressional Research Service) Intelligence Community Spending: Trends and Issues Updated November 6, 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/intel/R44381.pdf> (accessed 25 May 2021) (brackets added)

Most intelligence dollars are embedded in the defense budget. Historically this was for security purposes. All but the topline NIP [National Intelligence Program] and MIP [Military Intelligence Program] budget numbers are classified.

Impact: No Affirmative team

No one is affirming the resolution, so no matter who wins, you should vote Negative.

2. No commitment to dollars

Biden has just started putting out proposed Defense budget request. Numbers aren’t final and Congress hasn’t voted yet

Aaron Mehta and Joe Gould 2021. (journalists) DEFENSE NEWS 9 Apr 2021 Biden requests $715B for Pentagon, hinting at administration’s future priorities https://www.defensenews.com/breaking-news/2021/04/09/biden-requests-715b-for-pentagon-hinting-at-administrations-future-priorities/

The request, rolled out Friday, amounts to a slight decrease for the Pentagon when adjusted for inflation, and it’s well shy of the Trump administration’s projected $722 billion request for FY22. The proposal would also end the off-budget funding pool known the overseas contingency operations, or OCO, account. The first installment of Biden’s budget plan contained only top-line discretionary spending numbers. A more detailed budget is expected in May or June, although that is not expected to include reliable numbers for the Future Years Defense Program, or FYDP, projections.

Violation: No commitment

If the numbers don’t exist and nothing’s been decided yet, then obviously there’s no commitment to anything. It’s physically impossible to substantially decrease a commitment that doesn’t exist.

Impact: No Affirmative team

No one is affirming the resolution, so no matter who wins, you should vote Negative.

3. No commitment to waste

Link: AFF is cutting waste, they argue

That’s what their tag lines and evidence claims

Violation: But reducing waste, to be topical, means there must have been a commitment to waste

…if that’s the only thing you’re reducing. But there is no US federal government commitment to waste money. Sure, it happens. But on what date did the US federal government make a commitment that said “Starting today, we commit to <<somebody>> that we’re going to waste defense dollars” ?

Impact: No Affirmative team

No one is affirming the resolution, so no matter who wins, you should vote Negative.

4. Not substantial

Plan claims to save $26 billion per year. But the 2020 Defense budget was $738 billion. So AFF saves 3.5% WOW!

Lawrence J. Korb 2020 (*senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. Former assistant secretary of defense in the Reagan administration; served four years on active duty as a naval flight officer; and retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve with the rank of captain* ) 6 May 2020 " The Pentagon’s Fiscal Year 2021 Budget More Than Meets U.S. National Security Needs" https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/security/reports/2020/05/06/484620/pentagons-fiscal-year-2021-budget-meets-u-s-national-security-needs/#:~:text=The%20FY%202021%20defense%20budget%20is%20composed%20of%20two%20parts,%2473%20billion%20in%20FY%202020.

When the Trump administration unveiled its FY 2021 federal budget, many defense hawks in and out of government expressed concerns that the increase in the size of the proposed $740 billion defense budget was too modest, particularly when compared with the $738 billion that the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) received for FY 2020.

Violation: 3.5% reduction isn’t substantial. Substantial means:

Merriam Webster online dictionary copyright 2021 https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/substantial

considerable in quantity **:**significantly great

Impact: Waste of time

The word substantial exists in the resolution for a reason. It’s to avoid wasting our time debating things like a 3.5% reduction in something. Time we waste debating that could have been spent debating things that had real impact on someone’s life or the nation as a whole. We’ll never get these 2 hours back again, and the Affirmative stole them from you. Make them regret that by casting a Negative ballot.

HARMS / SIGNIFICANCE

1. Extra costs are justified

Outside service contractors often have to have special training or security clearances – more than if they were in any old office outside the Defense Dept.

Nicole Bowman 2016 (journalist) 1 March 2016 “Maintaining Top Secret and Sensitive Facilities” https://www.cmmonline.com/articles/maintaining-top-secret-and-sensitive-facilities

Cleaning and facility maintenance can be some of the most mission-critical services provided in situations where national security, scientific leadership, and human health are on the line. While it’s easy for those in our industry to see that all cleaning is critical, some facilities require extra security clearances, expertise, and training for those who provide cleaning services in their spaces. This is due to the extremely high level of security, sensitivity, and technical knowledge involved—and the stakes are incredibly high.

Defense Dept cleaning crews must have background checks and security clearances. Of course it costs more!

Nicole Bowman 2016 (journalist) 1 March 2016 “Maintaining Top Secret and Sensitive Facilities” https://www.cmmonline.com/articles/maintaining-top-secret-and-sensitive-facilities

Those who clean in high-security areas are held to the same vetting processes as anyone else who works in the building. So an employee who is cleaning the restrooms at the Pentagon is adjudicated to the same standards and levels of any U.S. military and government personnel also working at the Pentagon. Labs in the biotech world might require even more clearance than that. For example, Servicon serves some clients who make pharmaceutical products that include synthetic narcotics. “Our people have to undergo specific types of background checks to work around those substances,” Sewell says.

SOLVENCY

1. More study needed

Defense Dept. doesn't have the analytical tools to conduct an accurate budget assessment. We need to rebuild those and do the assessment first

Thomas Spoehr 2021. (retired Lieutenant (3-star) General, US Army; Master of Arts in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College) 18 Jan 2021 " The Six Blind Men and the Elephant: Differing Views on the U.S. Defense Budget" https://www.heritage.org/defense/commentary/the-six-blind-men-and-the-elephant-differing-views-the-us-defense-budget

The final, and most important, improvement the administration can make is to rebuild the Department of Defense’s analytic capability, which has been cut or atrophied. Last year, the Government Accountability Office [found](https://www.gao.gov/assets/700/697533.pdf) that the Department of Defense has not kept relevant analysis products, such as concepts of operation, up to date, and thus, relevant assessments have suffered. The Government Accountability Office suggested that a telltale sign of this inadequacy is that Department of Defense analysis rarely deviates from those conducted by the services, suggesting that the Office of the Secretary of Defense has been co-opted. Perhaps because of these deficiencies, outside think tanks, rather than the Department of Defense, have performed many strategic assessments of late. The Department of Defense should take the opportunity to deliberately reconstitute a world-class analytic capability run by qualified analysts and leaders. The starting point for deciding how much money the nation should spend on defense is to first form an informed opinion on what is necessary.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Work not done. It leads to loss of US hegemony by shutting down the Pentagon and Ft Bragg

Link: Work not done. In the article cited by AFF that claims $262 billion saved over 10 years, savings only happens if the work done by the eliminated contractors is completely not replace by anyone

(AFFIRMATIVE SOURCE) Sustainable Defense Task Force of The Center for International Policy 2019. Sustainable Defense: More Security, Less Spending , June 2019 https://67ae62e0-a930-4a42-8f98-6c406ea4d9de.filesusr.com/ugd/3ba8a1\_635241b0a0894b3fb377c88e500c3620.pdf

Reduce Operations and Maintenance Spending by Reducing Service Contracting Savings: $262.5 Billion Over Ten Years
According to the CBO, O&M spending grew by 45% in real terms from 2000 to 2018 at the same time that the size of the U.S. military decreased by 4%. The largest savings in the O&M budget would come from reducing civilian personnel and service contractors. Another area of significant savings would be reduced fuel use – the Pentagon is the largest institutional user of fossil fuels in the world (see appendix on Pentagon fuel use and climate change). For purposes of calculating savings, this section looks only at the savings yielded by reducing service contractors, and not replacing them with military or civilian personnel.

**END QUOTE. So Judge, the cost savings isn’t from cutting expensive contractors and replacing them with cheaper workers. It comes from not doing the work at all.**

Link: No specifics.

AFF doesn’t tell you specifically which contractors or services they’re going to cut. So, we’re free to supply the missing information. As long as we have evidence showing something is being done by outsourced service contractors, we can run it as a disadvantage. If they didn’t want this to happen, they should have specified what they were cutting. And it’s too late to change the plan in later speeches.

Link: Janitorial / custodial services won’t happen at the US Army War College, the Pentagon and Ft Bragg. Because they’re contracted out to a civilian contractor…

Chimes DC copyright 2017 (a janitorial contracting company that specializes in hiring disabled employees) “Chimes District of Columbia” https://chimes.org/about/chimes-family/chimes-dc/

We are accredited by SourceAmerica (formerly NISH) as an AbilityOne service provider, allowing us to take advantage of federal legislation offering employment preference at selected sites for people with disabilities. Sites include the Pentagon, Library of Congress, the Department of Commerce, the Department of the Interior, and many others. Chimes DC also provides services to Maryland state agencies, including Baltimore-Washington Thurgood Marshall Airport. While many of our contracts provide janitorial/custodial services, we also administer Total Facility Management and Base Operations Support contracts under AbilityOne. We employ people with disabilities at sites ranging as far north as the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and as far south as Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Link: Pentagon, Ft Bragg and US Army War College will shut down.

How long do you think those buildings can stay open without being resupplied with bathroom tissue or with no one to clean up the toilets, or any other janitorial service? Imagine the smell. Imagine the lost time when the workers have to leave the building and go somewhere else to use the bathroom every day they come to work.

Link: Shutting down major parts of the US military links to loss of US hegemony

RUN ALL THE DISADVANTAGES FROM THE NEG HEGEMONY BRIEF…