

Stenographic Transcript  
Before the

COMMITTEE ON  
ARMED SERVICES

## **UNITED STATES SENATE**

HEARING TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATIONS OF: LIEUTENANT  
GENERAL THOMAS D. WALDHAUSER, USMC, TO BE GENERAL AND  
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES AFRICA COMMAND; AND LIEUTENANT  
GENERAL JOSEPH L. LENGYEL, ANG, TO BE GENERAL AND CHIEF OF  
THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Washington, D.C.

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HEARING TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATIONS OF:  
LIEUTENANT GENERAL THOMAS D. WALDHAUSER, USMC, TO BE  
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LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOSEPH L. LENGYEL, ANG, TO BE  
GENERAL AND CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

U.S. Senate  
Committee on Armed Services  
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:34 a.m. in  
Room SD-G50, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. John  
McCain, chairman of the committee, presiding.

Committee Members Present: Senators McCain  
[presiding], Inhofe, Wicker, Ayotte, Fischer, Cotton,  
Rounds, Ernst, Tillis, Sullivan, Lee, Graham, Reed, Nelson,  
McCaskill, Manchin, Shaheen, Gillibrand, Donnelly, Hirono,  
Kaine, King, and Heinrich.

Also Present: Senator Cornyn.

1           OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN McCAIN, U.S. SENATOR  
2 FROM ARIZONA

3           Chairman McCain: Good morning. The Senate Armed  
4 Services Committee meets this morning to consider the  
5 nominations of Lieutenant General Thomas Waldhauser to be  
6 Commander of U.S. Africa Command and Lieutenant General  
7 Joseph Lengyel to be Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

8           I welcome both of our nominees and thank them for their  
9 continued willingness to serve our Nation.

10          General Waldhauser, Africa has reemerged as an active  
11 front in the global war on terror with ISIL, al Qaeda, Boko  
12 Haram, and al-Shabaab, commanding territory and launching  
13 successful attacks throughout the continent, and threatening  
14 our interests and those of our allies. Of particular  
15 concern is the rise of ISIL in Libya, where the terrorist  
16 group commands an army of over 5,000 fighters. While recent  
17 advances by militia forces against ISIL's stronghold in  
18 Sirte are encouraging, the country remains mired by internal  
19 divisions, its nation unity government is unable to exercise  
20 control outside of Libya, outside of Tripoli, and, to date,  
21 has failed to secure the support of important blocs within  
22 the population. The failure of the United States and the  
23 international community to put forth a comprehensive  
24 strategy for Libya following the fall of Qaddafi in 2011 has  
25 contributed directly to the current crisis. And ISIL's

1 ability to strategically lash out and rapidly expand in  
2 Libya is a troubling warning about the price of the  
3 administration's reactive, indirect approach to fighting  
4 this enemy. Until this changes, I fear Libya will continue  
5 to deteriorate.

6 Compounding the rising terrorist threat across the  
7 continent, Africa remains plagued by longstanding conflicts  
8 and weak governance that drive large displacements of  
9 people, and so instability. While the threat in Africa  
10 continues to metastasize, our military commanders are being  
11 forced to do more with less, starved for resources and  
12 denied timely and flexible authorities to take advantage of  
13 battlefield opportunities and halt the advance of extremism  
14 and other drivers of instability.

15 General Waldhauser, I look forward to your thoughts  
16 today on how you intend to approach both the enormous  
17 challenges and opportunities within the AFRICOM area of  
18 responsibility.

19 General Lengyel, the role of the Chief of the National  
20 Guard Bureau has evolved over the last 10 years. The Chief  
21 of the National Guard Bureau now sits on the Joint Chiefs of  
22 Staff, serves as an advisor to the President on policy and  
23 security matters involving nonfederalized National Guard  
24 forces, and manages a relationship with the 54 adjutant  
25 generals. This role can be very challenging and requires

1 patient, determined leadership to put the mission first amid  
2 competing demands.

3 This committee has followed closely the recommendations  
4 of both the National Commission on the Structure of the Air  
5 Force and the National Commission on the Future of the Army.  
6 Both Commissions reported out recommendations for  
7 reinventing the total force. I hope you will address the  
8 Commission recommendations in your testimony here today.

9 Another area we are watching is the mobilization and  
10 demobilization cycle and procedures for the National Guard.  
11 Guard members and their families write to me often to  
12 discuss the stresses of these cycles on employment and  
13 family stability. I hope that you've given serious thought  
14 to how you intend to promote family readiness in the  
15 National Guard. Particularly, this committee is interested  
16 in working with the next Chief of the National Guard Bureau  
17 on reforms to the defense health system, especially reforms  
18 to address the unique needs of our National Guard and  
19 Reserve servicemembers and their families.

20 As is our tradition, before proceeding with their  
21 opening statements, I would invite both our nominees to  
22 invite any family members joining them this morning.

23 Senator Reed.

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1           STATEMENT OF HON. JACK REED, U.S. SENATOR FROM RHODE  
2 ISLAND

3           Senator Reed: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.  
4 And let me join you in welcoming our nominees. The  
5 positions to which these individuals have been nominated  
6 involve significant challenging duties, as you have outlined  
7 in your statement.

8           Both nominees today are, in my view, eminently  
9 qualified for the positions for which they have been  
10 nominated.

11           Lieutenant General Waldhauser, who has been nominated  
12 to be the next Commander of United States Africa Command,  
13 currently serves as the J-7 Director of Joint Force  
14 Development. He has served in a number of operational joint  
15 positions that have prepared him to serve as Commander,  
16 AFRICOM, including as commanding general, 1st Marine  
17 Division and as the commander, United States Marine Corps  
18 Forces, Central Command. Notably, I'd be remiss if I did  
19 not point out also that he has the qualification that  
20 probably makes him, without doubt, eminently qualified for  
21 this position. He's a United States Army Ranger School  
22 graduate. So, congratulations.

23           Lieutenant General Lengyel, who has been nominated to  
24 be Chief, National Guard Bureau, also comes to us with many  
25 qualifications. He has served the past 4 years as Vice

1 Chairman of the National Guard Bureau, and has vast  
2 experience as an Air Force pilot, with significant joint  
3 experience. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau is a  
4 member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and is a principal  
5 advisor to the Secretary of Defense, through the Chairman,  
6 on matters involving the nonfederalized National Guard  
7 forces in support of homeland defense and civil support  
8 missions. In this role, the Chief of National Guard Bureau  
9 plays a critical role of facilitating and mediating the  
10 interests of the States with the corporate mission and  
11 programs of the Department of Defense. As we've seen  
12 several times over the years in hearings before this  
13 committee, this is a tough job, and it takes a talented  
14 individual to fill it.

15 And I have every confidence that both Lieutenant  
16 General Waldhauser, as AFRICOM Commander, and Lieutenant  
17 General Lengyel will fulfill these difficult jobs.

18 Finally, I want to extend a special thanks to your  
19 families. I understand, Lieutenant General Waldhauser, that  
20 your wife, Gail, and son, Mark, who I met, have joined you  
21 today, and, Lieutenant General Lengyel, your wife, Sally,  
22 and your daughter, Katie, have joined you. We all know how  
23 important families have been to your careers. Without them,  
24 you wouldn't be here today, literally.

25 Again, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Chairman McCain: Before we proceed, I note the  
2 presence of distinguished Senator from Texas, who I know  
3 would provide some important words of wisdom and instruction  
4 to the -- all members of the committee.

5 Senator Cornyn.

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1 STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN CORNYN, U.S. SENATOR FROM TEXAS

2 Senator Cornyn: Well, thank you, Chairman McCain and  
3 Ranking Member Reed, and colleagues.

4 I'm honored to be here today to introduce one of the  
5 nominees, a fellow Texan, General -- Lieutenant General  
6 Joseph Lengyel, as the nominee to serve as the next Chief of  
7 the National Guard Bureau.

8 Citizen soldiers, of course, have been part of our  
9 country's fabric since the beginning. And, in the 21st  
10 century, their role continues to evolve to help safeguard  
11 our Nation. In addition to ensuring that our National  
12 Guardsmen are able and ready to do their job, the Chief of  
13 the National Guard Bureau must be able to provide sage  
14 military advice to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of  
15 Staff, the Secretary of Defense, and the President of the  
16 United States.

17 General Lengyel is the right man for this critical  
18 position. And the depth and breadth of his experience make  
19 him exceptionally well qualified. After graduating from the  
20 University of North Texas and completing his undergraduate  
21 pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base, General Lengyel  
22 cut his teeth in the cockpit of an F-16. His 34 years of  
23 distinguished military service include an array of  
24 operational, staff, and command assignments, as well as  
25 service in Operations Desert Storm, Provide Comfort,

1 Southern Watch, and Enduring Freedom. He's also served  
2 overseas as a defense attache.

3 As you can imagine, today is a special day, as both of  
4 you have noted, both the Chairman and the Ranking Member,  
5 not only for General Lengyel, but also his family. His wife  
6 of 24 years, Sally, and his daughter, Katie, are both here,  
7 as has already been pointed out. But, I'd also like to  
8 mention General Lengyel's two sons, who could not be here  
9 today: Michael, because he's following in his dad's  
10 footsteps as one of the Air Force's newest F-16 pilots, and  
11 Joe, who's attending college.

12 General Lengyel hails from a proud military family, and  
13 knows firsthand what it means to serve and sacrifice. His  
14 father, Lieutenant Colonel Lauren Lengyel, and mother,  
15 Marge, couldn't be here today, but certainly are watching on  
16 TV. General Lengyel's dad was also an Air Force pilot, and  
17 he shares some history with our distinguished Chairman,  
18 Senator McCain. Lieutenant Colonel Lengyel was shot down  
19 while flying over Vietnam in August of 1967 and was held as  
20 a prisoner of war in North Vietnam until March of 1973. In  
21 '75, he returned to Vietnam to fly missions during the fall  
22 of Saigon, being one of only two former POW pilots to return  
23 to Vietnam after 1973 to fly missions.

24 During his dad's captivity, his mother raised him,  
25 along with his brothers, Greg and Dan, and his sister,

1 Toddy. General Lengyel's younger brother, Greg, also  
2 carried the family tradition of military service, and he  
3 currently serves as a major general in the Air Force.

4 Once confirmed, General Lengyel's experience and  
5 leadership will be instrumental in guiding the National  
6 Guard as it faces a myriad of challenges both home -- at  
7 home and abroad.

8 Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me a few minutes to  
9 introduce General Lengyel. And I'm pleased to introduce him  
10 to the committee and recommend his confirmation.

11 Chairman McCain: Thank you, Senator Cornyn. And I  
12 know that you're -- have important obligations, but I thank  
13 you for being here to introduce this highly qualified  
14 General Lengyel. Thank you.

15 And, General Lengyel, I hope that, unlike your father  
16 and me, that the number of landings have matched the number  
17 of takeoffs.

18 So, I have standard questions for the nominees that  
19 need to be answered, and then we will proceed.

20 In order to -- and just answer yes or no to the  
21 following questions -- in order to exercise its legislative  
22 and oversight responsibility, it's important that this  
23 committee and other appropriate committees of the Congress  
24 are able to receive testimony, briefings, and other  
25 communications of information. Have you adhered to

1 applicable laws and regulations governing conflicts of  
2 interest?

3 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

4 Chairman McCain: Do you agree, when asked, to give  
5 your personal views, even if those views differ from the  
6 administration in power?

7 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

8 Chairman McCain: Have you assumed any duties or  
9 undertaken any actions which would appear to presume the  
10 outcome of the confirmation process?

11 [Both witnesses answered in the negative.]

12 Chairman McCain: Will you ensure your staff complies  
13 with deadlines established for requested communications,  
14 including questions for the record in hearings?

15 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

16 Chairman McCain: Will you cooperate in providing  
17 witnesses and briefers in response to congressional  
18 requests?

19 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

20 Chairman McCain: Will those briefings be protected  
21 from reprisal for their testimony or briefings?

22 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

23 Chairman McCain: Do you agree, if confirmed, to appear  
24 and testify, upon request, before this committee?

25 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

1 Chairman McCain: Do you agree to provide documents,  
2 including copies of electronic forms of communication, in a  
3 timely manner when requested by a duly-constituted  
4 committee, or to consult with the committee regarding the  
5 basis for any good-faith delay or denial in providing such  
6 documents?

7 [Both witnesses answered in the affirmative.]

8 Chairman McCain: General Waldhauser, we will begin  
9 with you. And, as I mentioned, if you'd like to introduce  
10 your family to the committee members that are here, please  
11 proceed.

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1           STATEMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL THOMAS D. WALDHAUSER,  
2 USMC, NOMINEE TO BE GENERAL AND COMMANDER, UNITED STATES  
3 AFRICA COMMAND

4           General Waldhauser: Thank you, Senator.

5           Chairman McCain, Ranking Member Reed, and distinguished  
6 members of the committee, good morning, and thank you for  
7 the opportunity to appear before you today.

8           I am truly honored to be nominated as the Commander,  
9 U.S. Africa Command. I want to thank the President and the  
10 Secretary of Defense for their confidence in me. And I want  
11 to recognize the current U.S. Africa Commander, General Dave  
12 Rodriguez, and his wife Ginny, for their dedicated service  
13 to our country and the men and women in uniform.

14          Joining me today is my wife, Gail, and our son, Mark.  
15 Our two daughters, Amy and Katherine, were not able to be  
16 here this morning. Gail has been a great mother and a  
17 superb advocate for military families over the years.  
18 Moreover, she taught middle school for many years where a  
19 large number of students were from military families in the  
20 communities where we were stationed.

21          Since the standup of AFRICOM nearly a decade ago, the  
22 Command has made many contributions to our national security  
23 interests on the continent. Today, there are numerous  
24 complex challenges in the African area of responsibility.  
25 Terrorist organizations and terrorist activities conducted

1 by groups such as the Islamic State in Libya and al-Shabaab  
2 in Somalia are present and active across the continent.  
3 Additionally, ethnic strife, poverty, mass atrocities, and  
4 illicit trafficking threaten stability and economic growth,  
5 particularly in nations with weak governments.  
6 Consequently, AFRICOM must continue to work with national  
7 and international partners to disrupt these transnational  
8 threats and prevent the export of terror on the continent,  
9 in the region, and ultimately to our homeland.  
10 Additionally, AFRICOM must continue to work with African  
11 partners to create an environment where these partners are  
12 willing and capable to address their security concerns.

13 If confirmed, I will work with not only the U.S.  
14 military components of AFRICOM, but with my fellow combatant  
15 commanders, as well, in order to foster an environment where  
16 our challenges are viewed from a transregional perspective  
17 and not just from a particular geographic area of  
18 responsibility. And also if confirmed, I will provide my  
19 best military advice to this committee, when requested.

20 Finally, and most importantly, I will do everything I  
21 can to properly lead, respect, and keep the faith with those  
22 in uniform and the civilian workforce who voluntarily serve  
23 our Nation.

24 Thank you again for allowing me to appear before this  
25 committee this morning, and I am prepared to answer your

1 questions.

2 [The prepared statement of General Waldhauser follows:]

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1 Chairman McCain: Thank you.

2 General Lengyel.

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1           STATEMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOSEPH L. LENGYEL,  
2   ANG, NOMINEE TO BE GENERAL AND CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD  
3   BUREAU

4           General Lengyel: Chairman McCain, Ranking Member Reed,  
5   distinguished members of this committee, it is a pleasure to  
6   be here today.

7           I'd like to thank Senator Cornyn for his opening  
8   remarks and my introduction.

9           Senator Cornyn mentioned my wife, Sally, and daughter,  
10   Katie, are here with me today. Sally served 7 years as an  
11   officer in the Air Force and grew up in an Air Force family.

12          She remains my most trusted advisor and the love of my  
13   life. Katie is a rising high school senior who is spending  
14   her summer interning at the Peace Corps, here in Washington,  
15   D.C. We are very proud of all three of our children, Joe,  
16   Mike, and Katie. And, without their love and support, I  
17   certainly would not be here today.

18          Chairman McCain: Welcome.

19          General Lengyel: Thank you.

20          I would also like to acknowledge my fellow nominee,  
21   Lieutenant General Thom Waldhauser, and his distinguished  
22   service. It's a privilege to be here today with him.

23          I am humbled by my nomination to be the 28th Chief of  
24   the National Guard Bureau, humbled by both the great leaders  
25   who have served in this position in the past, and, if

1 confirmed, by the incredible leaders I will join on the  
2 Joint Chiefs of Staff.

3 Over the past 4 years, I have been honored to serve as  
4 the Vice Chief and witness firsthand the visionary  
5 leadership of General Frank Grass. He, along with his  
6 predecessors, have left an indelible mark, resulting in the  
7 finest National Guard in our Nation's history. I am  
8 grateful to serve with the 453,000 citizen soldiers and  
9 airmen, a proud force that has been helping secure our  
10 Nation for nearly 380 years.

11 We are living in extraordinary times with incredible  
12 advances in technology, globalization, and commerce that  
13 give great cause for optimism and hope for the future. Yet,  
14 this optimism is tempered by unprecedented challenges in our  
15 global security environment. Transregional, multidomain,  
16 multifunctional threats, including near-peer competitors,  
17 regional actors, and violent extremist organizations,  
18 require a greater agility and inclusion of all elements of  
19 national power.

20 Since 9/11, the operational National Guard has  
21 mobilized roughly 780,000 times in support of the warfight.  
22 As the combat reserve of the Army and the Air Force, if  
23 confirmed, I will ensure that we continue to work seamlessly  
24 as part of the joint force to help bring security around the  
25 globe.

1           Our experience overseas enables us to protect the  
2 homeland and work with our Governors and our adjutant  
3 generals to answer the call when disaster strikes here at  
4 home. On any given day, we have anywhere between 3- to  
5 4,000 guardsmen conducting domestic operations, and the  
6 National Guard remains at the forefront of building enduring  
7 partnerships with local, State, Federal, and global  
8 partners.

9           Although we are proud of our heritage and our past, I  
10 am more excited about our future. The Guard's evolution as  
11 an operational force is a chapter in our Nation's security  
12 at home and abroad that is written through the incredible  
13 skill and devotion of America's citizen soldiers and airmen.  
14 The development of our most important asset, our people,  
15 will be our foremost task. If confirmed, I will strive to  
16 grow and train leaders who innovate and motivate the force.  
17 We must ensure that ethical behavior goes from the top down.  
18 Acts that demoralize units and degrade readiness, such as  
19 sexual assault and discrimination, can never be tolerated.  
20 In short, if I am confirmed, the National Guard will strive  
21 to be ready and to be the most diverse and inclusive force  
22 we can be.

23           Thank you again for allowing me to be here today. I  
24 look forward to working with the Congress, the Department of  
25 Defense, the interagency, the Governors, the adjutant

1   generals, and all stakeholders to ensure that we maintain  
2   the most capable, accessible, and ready National Guard  
3   possible. I look forward to your questions.

4           [The prepared statement of General Lengyel follows:]

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1 Chairman McCain: Thank you, General.

2 General Waldhauser, there's an old saying about  
3 "chickens come home to roost." As a person who's been to  
4 Libya on numerous occasions, including in Benghazi, when  
5 Chris Stevens was living there in a hotel, we watched  
6 Qaddafi being taken out without the loss of a single  
7 American aircraft or person, and then walked away. We  
8 walked away when, despite the repeated pleas of those of us  
9 who saw the situation deteriorating, we did nothing to help  
10 the Libyans, not to treat their wounded, not to secure  
11 weapons caches, not to help them with border security, and,  
12 most of all, help a nation that had never known democracy to  
13 achieve it. Now we're paying the price for it. Now we're  
14 paying a heavy price. We have American troops in Libya,  
15 according to a published report. Is that true?

16 General Waldhauser: We have a small number of troops  
17 on the ground, that is --

18 Chairman McCain: So, we have American troops on the  
19 ground, which never would have been required if we had done  
20 the things necessary that we did after Korea, after World  
21 War II, after Bosnia, instead of walking away from it. An  
22 abject, total disgraceful failure on the part of this  
23 administration and this President. So, now you're handed,  
24 frankly, a can of worms, because I don't have a lot of  
25 confidence in the Misratans. I've seen them in action

1 before. I don't have a lot of confidence in General Haftar,  
2 who has his own agenda, obviously. And, of course, ISIS has  
3 established approximately, according to published reports,  
4 about 5,000 people in Libya. So, you're going -- and we're  
5 not -- not to mention Boko Haram, not to mention the other  
6 challenges in AFRICOM. So, how are you going to make  
7 chicken salad out of this situation, General?

8 General Waldhauser: Senator McCain, the situation  
9 today in Libya is very complex. We have two significant  
10 objectives for the United States. One is to get the  
11 Government of National Accord up and running, and the second  
12 is to disrupt Libya -- to disrupt the -- ISIL inside Libya.

13 The Government of National Accord has been on station in  
14 Tripoli since March. It's got a long way to go, but it has  
15 shown some very basic progress. Moreover, in the last --

16 Chairman McCain: Does that government include General  
17 Haftar?

18 General Waldhauser: It does not. General Haftar is in  
19 charge of the Libyan National Army.

20 Chairman McCain: Does it include the Misratans?

21 General Waldhauser: The Misratans have pledged their  
22 allegiance to the GNA.

23 Chairman McCain: Does it -- does the government  
24 include them, or is it they've just pledged their  
25 allegiance?

1           General Waldhauser: They've pledged their allegiance  
2 with regards to their inclusion. I don't have a lot of  
3 knowledge in that particular topic. They are carrying out  
4 the mission of trying to take on ISIL inside Sirte.

5           Chairman McCain: Please go ahead. I interrupted you.

6           General Waldhauser: Thank you, Senator.

7           Again, a very complex situation. So, the government,  
8 the GNA, is making very small progress. It's going to take  
9 a lot of time.

10           With regards to the ISIL situation, the Misratans along  
11 with the Petroleum Guard Force have surrounded the city of  
12 Sirte. They've gained some territory in the last week, but  
13 they have not gone into the city. So, you could say there  
14 has been some progress. But, the bottom line is, with  
15 regards to tribal allegiances, these things come and go.  
16 And right now, the Misratans, at least they've pledged their  
17 allegiance to the GNA.

18           Chairman McCain: Are you confident that we have  
19 sufficient military presence and activity in Libya to take  
20 care of ISIS and somehow restore or form up some kind of  
21 consensus government?

22           General Waldhauser: At the present, our assistance has  
23 been advisory, and it has been to provide guidance. The  
24 Misratans and the Petroleum Guard have -- has made progress,  
25 however one of the things we need to watch in the next few



1 weeks is, if there is success in Sirte, if ISIL does get  
2 routed and perhaps leave, we need to have a plan for success  
3 at that point.

4 Chairman McCain: So, right now you don't think we need  
5 additional U.S. military presence.

6 General Waldhauser: At the moment, no.

7 Chairman McCain: Would -- "at the moment" means, to  
8 me, we don't have a strategy. I don't know what "at the  
9 moment" -- unfortunately, this administration has reacted  
10 "at the moment" with incrementalism, mission creep, a  
11 gradual escalation in Iraq and Syria. And I don't want to  
12 see the same thing in Libya, but I'm beginning to see the  
13 same thing. Do we have a strategy for Libya, or are we just  
14 acting in an ad hoc fashion, which was -- is been the case  
15 as we have watched ISIS establish, metastasize, and grow in  
16 Libya?

17 General Waldhauser: Well, as indicated, the two  
18 strategic objectives that we do have for Libya is to assist  
19 the --

20 Chairman McCain: I know the objectives. Do we have a  
21 strategy?

22 General Waldhauser: To continue to support that right  
23 -- at this point in time. I am not aware of any overall  
24 grand strategy at this point.

25 Chairman McCain: Do you -- are you aware of a need for

1 sufficient military engagement to see that the mission is  
2 accomplished, which it seems to me, as you mentioned, is  
3 twofold: -- one, take care of ISIS, and the other, establish  
4 a stable government in Libya?

5 General Waldhauser: One of the things we have to be  
6 very careful about is the complex relationships of these  
7 various militias, and so on. So, if the government, meaning  
8 Mr. Saraj, and the GNA requests our support, then we should  
9 very much consider doing that. And so, I think we've been  
10 able to tell him what we could offer at this point in time.

11 Chairman McCain: Well, I would just, finally, say  
12 you're inheriting a very difficult and complex situation,  
13 which didn't have to be. We walked away from Libya.  
14 Senator Lieberman, Senator Graham, and I, after that -- and  
15 we were there at their elections, where they had -- where  
16 they were full of hope, and we walked away from them. It's  
17 another disgraceful chapter in the history of this  
18 administration's national security policies.

19 Senator Reed.

20 Senator Reed: Mr. Chairman, I have to go to the  
21 Banking Committee. Could I yield to Senator Gillibrand?

22 Chairman McCain: Senator Gillibrand.

23 Senator Gillibrand: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 I'll address National Guard issues first. General,  
25 I've been a long advocate of including the National Guard in

1 our cyber efforts. Can you tell me about how you see the  
2 National Guard engaging in the cyber mission? And one of  
3 the challenges has been a shortage of training seats for  
4 guardsmen, which is the status of the Professional  
5 Educational Center. And what needs to be done to ensure  
6 that it is available to provide additional cyber training  
7 capacity?

8 General Lengyel: Senator, I thank you for that  
9 question.

10 The National Guard is building robust capacity in the  
11 cyberdomain. There is a cyber capacity in all 54 States,  
12 territories, and the District, at a basic level. And we've  
13 got 15 cyber units in the Air National Guard and another 11  
14 cyber protection teams in the Army National Guard. Those  
15 are only partially built. We do need training. Training  
16 slots in schools is a problem. And we have begun to address  
17 that by creating additional school slots down in our -- in  
18 Arkansas is -- Little Rock, Arkansas, has created a separate  
19 school slot to work the extra surge required for cyber  
20 growth. And I obviously think cyber is a great mission for  
21 the Guard, great connectivity with the community, with the  
22 cyber expertise and the IT -- in the IT world. So, if  
23 confirmed, I'll continue to do everything I can to keep  
24 building that cyber enterprise.

25 Senator Gillibrand: And just as followup, what will

1 Army Guard CPT's relationship be to CYBERCOM's cyber mission  
2 force?

3 General Lengyel: Senator, currently they are not  
4 included as part of the Army -- our cyber mission force.  
5 And if confirmed, I'll work with our cyber and Chief of  
6 Staff of the Army and U.S. Cyber Command to -- I think they  
7 should be part of the cyber mission force.

8 Senator Gillibrand: I do, too.

9 General Lengyel: And I think they think that, too.  
10 So, that'll make school slots easier for us to get, solidify  
11 the requirements, and should be better for the cyber  
12 enterprise.

13 Senator Gillibrand: Thank you, General.

14 With regard to AFRICOM, General Waldhauser, although  
15 Boko Haram is considered a regional threat, you have said  
16 that Boko Haram now identifies as ISIL of West Africa. I'm  
17 very concerned that groups like Boko Haram, by aligning with  
18 ISIL or al Qaeda, may morph regional threats into  
19 transnational threats. Years before al Qaeda attacked New  
20 York and Washington, it hit our embassies in Tanzania and  
21 Kenya. I brought a CODEL of a group of Senators to really  
22 assess growing terrorism threats throughout Africa, and this  
23 was a constant in our conversation. How concerned are you  
24 that Boko Haram and groups like it will become transnational  
25 threats that will endanger lives in Europe or even America?

1 And what should we be doing to prevent that possibility?

2 General Waldhauser: Senator, I'm very concerned that  
3 Boko Haram will ultimately move out of the region and  
4 perhaps -- on the continent, and perhaps ultimately to the  
5 homeland. That's the ISIL brand. However, at this time, the  
6 Lake Chad Basin region, which has a multinational task force  
7 headed by Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon, and those countries, we  
8 work with them to provide assistance, training so that they  
9 can take on Boko Haram. Boko Haram, although called now,  
10 you know, ISIL West Africa, is a regional threat and one of  
11 the things we need to continue to watch.

12 Senator Gillibrand: When we were there, we met with a  
13 number of the governments that you referenced. We went --  
14 we were in Chad, and we met with some Nigerians, as well.  
15 Each of those military components, and each of the countries  
16 we visited, asked for greater cooperation with intelligence-  
17 sharing, specifically. So, how do you assess the current  
18 state of our intelligence-gathering and -sharing with  
19 African countries? Is it possible to increase that? And  
20 what do you think is the best way to improve our  
21 intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities  
22 in Africa? And if you can't answer that in this session,  
23 I'd ask you to provide details in a closed session.

24 General Waldhauser: Thank you, Senator. What I can  
25 tell you in this session is that we have contributed ISR

1 support, we have contributed training to the multinational  
2 joint task force. This has assisted the Nigerians, for  
3 example, in locating Boko Haram on several occasions.

4 Senator Gillibrand: And do you think that's something  
5 we could enhance? Because they asked -- they were grateful  
6 for everything we'd done to date, but they did ask for more.

7 General Waldhauser: Yes, Senator. As you know,  
8 AFRICOM is an economy-of-force theater, and we always would  
9 ask for more. And, if confirmed, I would advocate for more,  
10 if that were deemed to be my determination. However, at  
11 this time, it appears that we are giving them enough  
12 intelligence that they can conduct operations to contain  
13 Boko Haram or ISIL West Africa in northern Nigeria.

14 Senator Gillibrand: One of the other conversations we  
15 had on this CODEL was that many of the youth that are  
16 joining terrorist groups in Africa start out being lured by  
17 the promise of steady money, especially those who may not  
18 have seen their basic necessities being met -- food,  
19 clothing, housing. In Kenya, al-Shabaab was paying new  
20 recruits \$100 a week, with a \$500 bonus for joining. What  
21 role do you think economic development plays in countering  
22 terrorism in Africa? And what do you think the U.S.  
23 Government can be doing to assist with that will create  
24 alternative options for young Africans susceptible to  
25 joining terrorist groups?

1           General Waldhauser: Well, ultimately, a secure and a  
2 stable and a prosperous Africa are in our national  
3 interests. You know, it's interesting, of the youth bulge  
4 inside Africa, a significant number of children under the  
5 age of 14 -- so, eventually, if you want to get at the  
6 conditions of radicalism, you've got to provide a strong  
7 economic status so they can have jobs and so forth. So, it  
8 is a huge part of the overall effort, and it's in our  
9 interest to have economic growth on the continent that will  
10 allow jobs and allow a different path for many of these  
11 youth who get swayed by money and jobs and so forth by  
12 joining groups such as Boko Haram.

13           Senator Gillibrand: Thank you.

14           Chairman McCain: Senator Inhofe.

15           Senator Inhofe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16           I'm not very alert today after staying up very late  
17 last night watching Oklahoma State University devastate  
18 Arizona in the final four.

19           [Laughter.]

20           Chairman McCain: The Senator is out of order.

21           [Laughter.]

22           Senator Inhofe: The Chairman brought up the -- some of  
23 the problems in Libya. And I was glad that Senator  
24 Gillibrand talked about some of the sub-Sahara Africa  
25 problems with Boko Haram in Nigeria and al-Shabaab in

1 Somalia. My concern is this. When AFRICOM was set up,  
2 AFRICOM was not -- it wasn't really dedicated the resources  
3 other commands are. You're dependent upon CENTCOM, EUCOM,  
4 and others in order to take care of the problems you had.  
5 Now, with all of these things coming up now that we didn't  
6 anticipate, how are you handling that part? I mean, are you  
7 going to be -- how are you handling your resources, your  
8 manpower?

9 General Waldhauser: Senator, if confirmed, I think one  
10 of my big responsibilities is to evaluate situations such as  
11 in Nigeria and Boko Haram, where we are with al-Shabaab,  
12 what's going on with AQIM in Mali, is to evaluate those  
13 situations and then advocate for the resources necessary to  
14 contribute to whatever the mission may be for them. As I  
15 said, AFRICOM is an economy-of-force effort, but it's my job  
16 to advocate when I have a clear --

17 Senator Inhofe: You can advocate all you want, but we  
18 -- the resources are not there as we have in -- we've  
19 learned to expect in the past. That's the big problem that  
20 we have with this happening all over the world. And my  
21 question, I guess, is, Have you found there's enough left  
22 over for you when you do advocate for them?

23 General Waldhauser: Well, if confirmed -- and I'll  
24 have to look into what is -- what we still have to do. We  
25 have some shortages in ISR. We have --



1 Senator Inhofe: Okay.

2 General Waldhauser: -- shortages in personnel recovery  
3 aircraft and the like, because of other size of the  
4 continent. So, I know those two are definite places where  
5 we need to --

6 Senator Inhofe: As I mentioned to you before, one of  
7 the -- two of the things that I think are very successful in  
8 Africa are, number one, the train-and-equip program, and,  
9 number two, IMET program. And now we're looking in the  
10 future, when we look -- talk about the IMET program,  
11 anticipating that if we don't do it, we know who is going to  
12 be doing it. And so, are they still going along with those  
13 two programs, in spite of the competition that's out there?

14 General Waldhauser: It's my understanding that those  
15 -- the programs you mentioned, along with others, such as  
16 the 1208 program, are going well.

17 Senator Inhofe: Yeah. Thank you.

18 General Lengyel, the concern that we have -- and we've  
19 heard it in this -- we've had several hearings talking about  
20 the Active Air Force. During the readiness hearing in  
21 March, they talked about the manning shortfalls in the  
22 critical career field, including Air Force pilots. The fact  
23 that we're currently over 640 pilots short of their  
24 requirement -- now, we're talking about Active now -- and  
25 all these things that they're talking about, they cost some

1 \$9 million, we determined, to take someone off the street  
2 and train them to the F-22 level, while we're talking about  
3 retention bonuses around \$225,000. Now, I'm -- now, these  
4 are serious problems with Active. How do you rank these  
5 with the Reserve component?

6 General Lengyel: Well, Senator, it's cyclical. When  
7 airlines begin to hire, it begins to be more difficult to  
8 retain pilots. The good news for the National Guard is, you  
9 can be an airline pilot and a pilot in the unit. So, what's  
10 important for us is to watch and maintain the frequency and  
11 the predictability of our rotational deployments. And if we  
12 do that, you know, we're going to be able to be just fine.  
13 We -- it's -- it is a problem. It's particularly a problem  
14 in our full-time force. To retain the full-time instructor  
15 pilot cadres is challenging for us. But, it's something  
16 that we have to work on constantly. And --

17 Senator Inhofe: Yeah. What percentage of your pilots  
18 are -- come from Active?

19 General Lengyel: Sir, if I told you, I'd be guessing.  
20 I mean, I'm guessing probably half, maybe a little more than  
21 that. I was a former Active Duty pilot, myself. A lot of  
22 pilots come from the Active component when they transition  
23 to the commercial airlines and then follow on with --

24 Senator Inhofe: Now, see, that is a problem, too,  
25 because that exacerbates the problem of the Active units.

1 Well, that's something that we're very much concerned about.

2 The last thing I wanted to mention was the activity in  
3 -- of the Chinese in Africa, General Waldhauser. You know,  
4 they -- we have observed for a long period of time what  
5 China is doing there. They come in, they do huge -- they're  
6 even talking about that long railroad project that goes all  
7 the way from south to north. But, when they do this, they  
8 don't hire Africans, they're bringing their own people in.  
9 And it appears to me, from my activity down there, that they  
10 are -- the saying in Africa is that United States tells them  
11 what they need, and then China gives them what they need,  
12 but they're not doing this out of the kindness of their  
13 heart. Do you see that threat continuing as it has in the  
14 last 10 years that I know of?

15 General Waldhauser: Senator, I do. China's interests  
16 are markets and minerals. And they do -- you know, we hire  
17 locals, for example, in Djibouti at the -- our facility  
18 there. We hire Djiboutians, but the Chinese do not.

19 Senator Inhofe: Yeah. That's correct.

20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Chairman McCain: Senator Reed.

22 Senator Reed: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

23 And I apologize, gentlemen, for leaving briefly.

24 General Waldhauser, the issue in Libya is critical.

25 There are two elements that have been discussed publicly as

1 part of an overall approach. One would be to -- targeted  
2 air campaign against ISIL and its infrastructure. We've  
3 conducted sporadic air operations against them. And second  
4 would be an international training program in order to  
5 provide these militias with basic skills and also impress  
6 upon them the need to be supportive of the government, not  
7 destructive. Can you comment on these two approaches?

8 General Waldhauser: Senator, I can say two things.  
9 First, we -- as you indicated, we have struck in Libya in  
10 the past -- I believe, three times in the last year -- if  
11 the target was against our -- it was imminent and against  
12 our interests. And we've done that.

13 With regards to the militias, one of the significant  
14 challenges is, in some way, to unite all those militias  
15 under the GNA. That's a significant problem. I know, at  
16 the present time, working with our partners and allies in  
17 the region, the Libyan International Assist Mission, for  
18 example, with Italy and the U.K., that -- those discussions  
19 are ongoing. And, if confirmed, I will certainly become  
20 more aware of what's going on there and work with those  
21 individuals to help try to train these partner -- these  
22 militias and try to -- in some way, try to unify them behind  
23 then GNA.

24 Senator Reed: This is one of -- area of the world  
25 where some of our allies have much longer contacts, both

1 personal, economic -- I think of the Italians, who basically  
2 occupied the area for a number of years. And do you find  
3 that the -- that they're in a position to be more proactive,  
4 effective, or in a leadership role than -- because of these  
5 historic connections?

6 General Waldhauser: Senator, from my studying for this  
7 appointment, it appears to me that the Italians are  
8 involved. They're involved in Operation Sophie, which is on  
9 the Mediterranean Sea, to try to intercept weapons as well  
10 as refugees moving from the coast into the Mediterranean.  
11 Additionally, they have indicated to be a key player, if not  
12 the lead, in the Libyan International Assist Mission, where,  
13 once requested by the government, that they would come in  
14 and do training and advising in that capacity. And they  
15 would be the leader in that, and provide the bulk of forces.

16 Senator Reed: General, in response to both, I think,  
17 Senator Inhofe, Senator Gillibrand, you underscore a point  
18 that I would raise, which is, of all the COCOMs, you're the  
19 one who determines the most on non-DOD resources to  
20 accomplish a mission. I -- maybe SOCOM would be in the same  
21 category. State, AID, CDC, economic entities that are  
22 making investments. Is that your perspective as you go into  
23 this job?

24 General Waldhauser: Senator, building capacity with  
25 the militaries and the governments inside the continent is a

1 huge part of what we do. I would say that the terrorism  
2 issues that we've talked about here this morning are  
3 certainly number one. But, meanwhile, we've got to continue  
4 to build partnership capacity, bring these militaries up to  
5 a level not only of tactical competence, but ethics on the  
6 battlefield, respect for the rule of law. And that needs to  
7 be part of the training, as well. So, yes, partnerships and  
8 capacity-building are a big part of what AFRICOM does.

9 Senator Reed: And is the direct capacity-building with  
10 military-to-military, but then trying to reach out to the  
11 population with a positive message to dissuade young people  
12 from embracing some of this radicalism, that's a State  
13 Department function, AID function, but that's something  
14 that's critical to your mission.

15 General Waldhauser: Yes, Senator, it is. In fact, we  
16 have a program that we work with our National Guard  
17 partners. It's called the State Partnership Program. I  
18 think there's about a dozen States who have partnerships  
19 with Africa. So, for example, in Djibouti, the State of  
20 Kentucky has a relationship with them. And they have all  
21 kind of engagements, where, not only military activity is  
22 certainly on the skyline, but just the ability to -- for  
23 government and just educational exchanges -- things like  
24 that are a big part of what we do, and they will get at  
25 these conditions that will hopefully in the future assuage

1 people from trying to become radicalized.

2 Senator Reed: Thank you.

3 General Lengyel, again, I commend you for your service  
4 and for your commitment. You're superbly prepared, since  
5 you've been doing a lot of this work for the last several  
6 years. One of the issues is the constant sort of  
7 coordination between Department of Defense and 54 adjutant  
8 generals. You might have the job with the most forces in  
9 Washington, I don't know, but you're probably close to the  
10 top. Can you comment upon your approach and what are some  
11 of the issues you think are most significant between this  
12 group of State officers and DOD?

13 General Lengyel: Yes, sir. I think the 54 adjutant  
14 generals do amazing things in their States. They organize,  
15 train, and equip their forces to be ready for the warfight.  
16 And we have proven, for the past 15 years, they are doing a  
17 fantastic job. Last year, they had half a million man days  
18 of guardsmen doing things in their States for their  
19 Governors. And we need to make sure that they are equipped  
20 and ready to do that. And all of that readiness flows from  
21 their warfight business.

22 So, my job, as the conduit of communication to the  
23 Department, to this body, is to know what they think, know  
24 what they need, kind of blend all of that together with the  
25 lens of the national picture of the whole National Guard,

1 and make my best military advice to my bosses and to this  
2 committee. And so, constant communication, a full awareness  
3 of their requirements and their needs, and then blending  
4 that together to solidify the advice to both the service  
5 secretaries and to this body.

6 Senator Reed: Thank you very much.

7 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Chairman McCain: Senator Ernst.

9 Senator Ernst: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 Gentlemen, thank you for being here today. And I want  
11 to especially thank your families, as well, for your love  
12 and support through your wonderful careers.

13 I'm going to start with you, General Lengyel, and thank  
14 you so much. I enjoyed sitting down with you and visiting,  
15 the other day, and excited about the opportunities that you  
16 have ahead of you.

17 As you know, over the past year, there have been a  
18 number of States -- I know this is something that Senator  
19 Cotton has wrestled with, as well, in Iowa, as well -- who  
20 are facing issues in maintaining our nominal lease rates  
21 with our civilian airports that house Air National Guard  
22 units. And currently in Des Moines, at their airport, their  
23 24-month conditional compliance period is coming to an end  
24 this August. And if we don't have this issue resolved by  
25 then, the 193rd Iowa Air National Guard Wing, they may be



1 faced with paying the full lease for the area that they  
2 occupy, which would severely disrupt their ISR mission and  
3 would further strain our DOD budget. So, can you commit to  
4 me today that you will personally look into this issue and  
5 do all you can to resolve it in order to end the disruption  
6 to our Air National Guard units?

7 General Lengyel: Yes, Senator. If confirmed, I commit  
8 to do that.

9 Senator Ernst: Thank you very much.

10 And a totally different topic, but one that is very,  
11 very important to us. In April, the Army Times reported  
12 that the National Guard, over the past year, has seen a 23-  
13 percent increase in suicide rates amongst its members. And  
14 can you give your perspective on why we are maybe seeing the  
15 increase in suicides amongst our members?

16 General Lengyel: Senator, I wish I could give you a  
17 solution to stop this. So far, just this year, we've had 54  
18 suicides, and we're on track to be over 100 again for  
19 another year. This is a problem that I don't think any  
20 glossy is going to solve, any program. This is a human  
21 interaction issue. We have a -- put a lot of effort and  
22 resources into behavioral health to get the resources to the  
23 States, to the 54, in both the Air and the Army National  
24 Guard, to have -- we had a Health of the Force Initiative in  
25 October, where we made an effort to contact every single

1 member of the Guard and find out if they -- if we could  
2 identify some of the risk factors -- financial or drug abuse  
3 or -- jobs is an issue, where it increases stress on our  
4 guardsmen -- men and women in the National Guard.

5         So, we continue to work this very hard. And, if  
6 confirmed, Senator, I'll continue to make it among my  
7 highest priorities to have a culture inside the National  
8 Guard where these men and women who are having these issues,  
9 who choose, you know, suicide, we can identify it, that  
10 reach out is a sign of strength, that we can get the  
11 resources to them, both in our communities and those offered  
12 by the Department, and things like the Jason Sexton Act that  
13 gives them a yearly psychological health evaluation -- all  
14 of these things come together to help us combat this. But,  
15 it's a problem, not just in the Army Guard; it is in the Air  
16 Guard and in society, as well.

17         Senator Ernst: Correct. And we lose 22 veterans --  
18 from the VA's numbers, 22 veterans every day to suicide.  
19 And that's unacceptable. So, thank you for your commitment  
20 in that area. And I look forward to working with you on  
21 those issues, as well.

22         And finally, for both of you gentlemen, we were  
23 visiting about the State Partnership Program a little bit  
24 earlier, General, and this is something that is extremely  
25 important to me. Iowa is partnered with the Republic of

1 Kosovo. And we have a very strong partnership there. I've  
2 engaged with a number of exchanges in Iowa with our Kosovar  
3 brothers and sisters. So, if you could, please, talk a  
4 little bit more about the State Partnership Program. We  
5 currently have 76 nations around the globe that are engaged  
6 in the Partnership Program. And if we could start with you,  
7 General, please, and just talk a little bit about the  
8 importance and significance of this.

9 General Lengyel: Yes, Senator. It's -- it is a  
10 fabulous program, really coming into its own as seen as --  
11 for the strategy tool that it is. It is a tool for the long  
12 game. It is a tool that builds relationships, trust, and  
13 the ability to have interaction with these countries for the  
14 long term. It's relatively low cost. It's a program that  
15 does five to seven events with five to seven people five to  
16 seven times a year. These people can go from major to major  
17 to general over the course of 20 years and still know each  
18 other and still trust each other and still be able to  
19 communicate. And in many, many cases, we have seen that pay  
20 off in spades, over the last year, particularly, with our  
21 older partnerships in Europe. And Kosovo is a great example  
22 of that. The trust and ability to assure and to tour forces  
23 in the region is something the State Partnership, too, can  
24 contribute to immensely.

25 Senator Ernst: Outstanding.

1 General Waldhauser, do you have any parting comments?

2 General Waldhauser: Senator, just briefly to add. The  
3 State Partnership Program in AFRICOM, which is a economy-of-  
4 force theater, is a huge combat multiplier. And the impact  
5 of what goes on goes far beyond the military piece. And  
6 those individuals are usually leaders within those countries  
7 and so on, so they will be able to touch many people in  
8 those countries. So, in sum, it's a very, very important  
9 part, for us. It helps us significantly.

10 Senator Ernst: Thank you, gentlemen, very much. And  
11 again, thanks to your families for being here, as well.

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 Chairman McCain: Senator Shaheen.

14 Senator Shaheen: Thank you both for being here this  
15 morning, for your service to this country, and for your  
16 willingness to take on these new responsibilities. And  
17 thank you, to your families, for being here, as well.

18 General Lengyel, I'm -- would like to begin with you,  
19 because, as you know, the National Guard is very important,  
20 not just to the overall force structure of our military, but  
21 to individual States. And in the State of New Hampshire,  
22 it's very important to help us address, not just storms and  
23 emergencies when they happen, but also ongoing challenges  
24 that we face. And, in New Hampshire, we have a huge  
25 epidemic from heroin and opioid abuse. And one of the areas

1 that the Guard has been helpful with is the National Guard  
2 Counter-Drug Program, where they have provided analysis --  
3 military analysis to our local law enforcement. And I know  
4 one of the challenges that they've experienced and that we  
5 would like to address is consistent funding for that  
6 program, and being able to rely on consistent funding for  
7 the program. I had General Reddel tell me that it takes a  
8 -- 2 years to train an analyst, and yet the funding is only  
9 there, at least in the last several years, for 1 year. So,  
10 can you talk about how important that consistent funding is  
11 to programs like the National Guard's Counter-Drug Program?

12 General Lengyel: Yes, Senator. We have, in the  
13 National Guard today, a little over 3,000 soldiers and  
14 airmen who are participating with law enforcement as  
15 partners with our communities using their unique military  
16 skillsets in concert with law enforcement to deter and  
17 detect and disrupt the flow of illicit drugs in the country.  
18 Every State has a need for this. And so, it costs us about  
19 \$200 million a year to provide this current level of  
20 support, and another \$20 million on top of that to provide  
21 the five schools, where we provide training for combating  
22 counterdrugs, that we have some unique law enforcement  
23 skillsets that we actually train in five separate  
24 schoolhouses.

25 So, when the funding is unstable, it disrupts our

1 ability to commit these forces to local communities, to law  
2 enforcement partners, and, more importantly than that, to  
3 me, is, it disrupts our ability to take care of the people  
4 who are doing these missions. These people have lives to  
5 live, and they need to know, "Hey, do I need to go find  
6 another job, or is this important counterdrug activity going  
7 to continue, going forward?" So, stability in funding, I  
8 would just say, is important for the warfight readiness,  
9 it's important for the homeland readiness, but it's very  
10 important to the people and to the mission of the Counter-  
11 Drug Program.

12 Senator Shaheen: Well, thank you. I know everybody on  
13 this committee appreciates that, and hopefully we will be  
14 able to be more effective in making sure that funding can be  
15 counted on. And I cannot overestimate how important those  
16 -- that Counter-Drug Program is in helping us in New  
17 Hampshire and in other States address the drug challenges  
18 that we face. So, kudos to the Guard. And hopefully it  
19 will continue in a very robust way.

20 General Waldhauser, according to information that just  
21 came out yesterday from the United Nations Refugee Agency,  
22 the number of refugees worldwide is at an alltime high, over  
23 65 million. And about 1.1 million of those were people who  
24 have fled from Somalia, which is third behind Syria and  
25 Afghanistan. And many of those refugees are in Africa. Can

1 you talk about how this displacement is affecting the role  
2 that you have and that you see you will have as head of  
3 AFRICOM?

4 General Waldhauser: Thank you, Senator.

5 Specifically in Somalia, there has been a large number  
6 of refugees that have crossed over the border into Kenya.  
7 That obviously puts a strain on their economy and their  
8 ability to provide services for those large numbers of  
9 people. Recently, Kenya has indicated they were going to  
10 release those back to Somalia. This is a significant issue,  
11 because, right now in Somalia, al-Shabaab still continues to  
12 press. And AMISOM, the United Nations mission inside  
13 Africa, has -- continues to battle al-Shabaab. In the past  
14 6 months or so, there's been a little bit of a slowdown, so  
15 to speak, on the initiative from the forces that are  
16 provided to AMISOM. So, countries such as Uganda, Burundi,  
17 Ethiopia, who provide these forces, they've taken a little  
18 bit of a backslide. So, moreover, I guess the point I'm  
19 trying to get to is that, inside Somalia, the government  
20 needs to move in a positive direction, and the armed forces  
21 of Somalia, which is what AMISOM is to transition to, needs  
22 to move forward, as well.

23 So, if confirmed, one of the first things I will do is  
24 take a look at the situation inside Somalia so we can get  
25 that movement back on track. Because the refugee problem

1 that you indicated will only compound the issues inside that  
2 country.

3 Senator Shaheen: My time is up, but can I just ask, on  
4 -- is there any way to get Kenya to delay their effort to  
5 shut down those refugee camps immediately?

6 General Waldhauser: Senator, I'm not aware of that,  
7 but there certainly would be some assistance required from  
8 the government -- our government -- State Department, for  
9 example -- to assist that. That would -- certainly would be  
10 a big positive.

11 Senator Shaheen: Thank you.

12 Chairman McCain: Senator Lee.

13 Senator Lee: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Thanks, to both of you, for your willingness to serve  
15 in these difficult positions. I'm grateful to you for your  
16 families and the support they've provided you. And I'm also  
17 grateful that both of you have taken the time to meet with  
18 me in -- prior to this meeting.

19 General Lengyel, I'd like to start with you. As we  
20 previously discussed, earlier this year the National  
21 Commission on the Future of the Army made some  
22 recommendations to Congress and to the Pentagon. And among  
23 those recommendations was a suggestion that the Army retain  
24 four Army -- that the Army retain four Apache battalions in  
25 the National Guard for the purpose of retaining greater



1 wartime capacity and adding to the depth that we have. And  
2 then the National Commission on the Structure of the Air  
3 Force recommended, in 2014, that the Air Force should,  
4 quote, "maintain operational capacity and capability and  
5 reduce stress on the Active component by maintaining or  
6 increasing the end strength of the Reserve components,  
7 particularly in traditional part-time reservists and  
8 guardsmen, while increasing regular, periodic, and  
9 predictable use of the Air Force Reserve and Air National  
10 Guard," close quote.

11 So, these reports and these suggestions seem to  
12 indicate that there is a greater role for the National Guard  
13 to play in peacetime missions and in wartime missions,  
14 especially as the Department of Defense is trying to cope  
15 with budget constraints. What's your assessment of how the  
16 National Guard has integrated and associated with Active  
17 services over the last 15 years? How have you seen that  
18 change? And how do you think the Guard can be used in the  
19 near future to help mitigate against the difficult budgetary  
20 conditions in which the Department of Defense is operating?

21 General Lengyel: Well, Senator, I think that -- I  
22 would start by saying, I'm a huge proponent for the  
23 operational use of the National Guard. On the Air Force  
24 side, I would tell you that we are embedded routinely,  
25 regularly deployed. The Air Force simply can't really do

1 anything, continuous operations around the world or fight  
2 its war plans, without integrating Air National Guard force  
3 structure across all of their MDSs in any mission set that  
4 they do.

5 On the Army, the last 15 years of fighting wars has --  
6 American people have spent billions of dollars buying them  
7 good equipment, making them ready, making them training,  
8 giving the discipline of the force generation model, now the  
9 sustained readiness model that is -- got the Army National  
10 Guard a very capable force that I believe has excess  
11 capacity to provide more regular and routine deployments.  
12 As I have heard General Milley testify and discuss recently  
13 in past, his associating constructs of his Active components  
14 and Reserve components, in my view, is a very good thing  
15 that's going to increase the readiness of the force and the  
16 availability of the force. Right now, we have about 10,000  
17 Army National Guard soldiers deployed around the world. For  
18 10 years of war, we had, routinely, 60,000 forces deployed  
19 around the world.

20 So, in my view, there's excess capacity now to take  
21 formations and deploy them regularly, in concert with the  
22 Army, their requirements, the combatant commanders, that  
23 they could, one, build a more ready and robust force in the  
24 Army National Guard, and, two, perhaps take some pressure  
25 off the Army so it -- to help them build readiness, as the

1 Air Force has used in there. So, I'm optimistic that the  
2 operational use of the National Guard is a good thing.

3 Senator Lee: Thank you. I tend to agree with that  
4 assessment.

5 General Waldhauser, tragically, practically every day,  
6 it seems, we hear about various tragedies around the world  
7 attributed to the work of terrorists, whether the horrific  
8 news of what happened in Orlando, Florida, on June 12th, or  
9 the violence of Boko Haram that seems incessant in Nigeria  
10 and Cameroon and Niger. What do you believe are the actual  
11 threats to our national security interests emanating from  
12 Africa? And how will you work to differentiate between  
13 actual threats to our national security and unfortunate  
14 situations that all too often happen on that continent, but  
15 perhaps could be said, realistically, not to have a direct  
16 impact on our national security?

17 General Waldhauser: Senator, it's important for our  
18 national security interests that we have a secure, a safe,  
19 and a prosperous Africa. So, for example, although Boko  
20 Haram would be considered, in my view, a regional threat,  
21 just like AQIM in Mali, they have shown signs of going after  
22 Western interests in other countries in the western part of  
23 Africa. So, for example, on the Ivory Coast, this past  
24 summer, shooting up of about a dozen or so people who were  
25 on the beach, the hotel inside Mali. So, they do go and try

1 to make spectacular attacks, where Western interests are on  
2 the continent, because their objective, certainly Boko  
3 Haram's objective, is to have their own state inside  
4 Nigeria.

5 So, the bottom line is, it's important for us to  
6 disrupt those activities, to make sure we contain those in  
7 the countries they're on so they don't spread throughout the  
8 continent, don't spread, for example, from Libya up into the  
9 Mediterranean and into the southern Europe, and ultimately  
10 don't spread to our homeland. We have a significant  
11 interest in making sure we keep it that way.

12 Senator Lee: Thank you, General.

13 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Chairman McCain: Senator King.

15 Senator King: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 General Lengyel, let's -- I want to pick up on some of  
17 the comments that you've just made, and also in your  
18 introductory comment about an integrated force structure,  
19 more regular and routine deployments. I think you gave a  
20 figure when you were -- in your opening statement, of a-  
21 thousand-and-some deployments in recent years. Is that --  
22 are we reaching a point where there's going to be a strain  
23 on the relationship between the Guard and private employers  
24 if -- if the Guard -- I mean, clearly, our strategy has  
25 changed over recent years -- if the Guard is really, as you

1 say, an integrated part of the force structure, do we create  
2 a potential problem of diminishing support from the employer  
3 community around the country as we see more and more and  
4 more frequent deployments?

5 General Lengyel: Senator, keeping -- you know, our  
6 business model in the National Guard doesn't work without  
7 the employers and our members, where the preponderance of  
8 their compensation comes from some other source besides the  
9 government. That -- our -- it absolutely is crucial that  
10 that works.

11 Employers have been remarkably supportive since we've  
12 been at war more than 15 years. And the key to that, I've  
13 found, I think, is, we have to keep the deployments  
14 predictable. We have to make the deployments work in  
15 accordance -- and I'll give you an example. For airline  
16 pilots, for instance, and which I was one, we were able to  
17 shorten deployments to such a length that they didn't lose  
18 training qualifications when they came back and had to be  
19 paid for to requalify. So, when it makes sense, we allow  
20 the deployments to work, unless there's an operational need,  
21 which obviously would take precedence, but --

22 Senator King: So, you're sensitive to this issue of  
23 trying to --

24 General Lengyel: Very sensitive. We are very  
25 sensitive to this issue, sir. And so, we're concerned.

1 And, for instance, in the Air Force, the tanker bases -- and  
2 you have one in your State --

3 Senator King: I was going to mention -- I was going to  
4 get to that.

5 General Lengyel: -- that has a -- an extremely -- I  
6 mean, that is one of the highest -- currently, highest  
7 utilized MBSs in the Air Force. It is less than 1-to-4  
8 deployment-to-dwell ratio. So, we have to be very careful  
9 when we use that. And we look for volunteers and cross-  
10 leveling unit-to-unit. And the Air Force has allowed us  
11 flexibility to maintain that so that it does work for the  
12 members and for the employers.

13 Senator King: Well, with regard to the 101st in  
14 Bangor, do you -- will you have a role in the  
15 recapitalization in the KC-46 allocations? What's your role  
16 in that --

17 General Lengyel: Well, sir, the process to do the  
18 basing is an Air Force process with which the National Guard  
19 obviously is a full and transparent participant in the  
20 process.

21 Senator King: General Waldhauser, you mentioned, early  
22 on, a key word: stability. And we had a meeting recently  
23 with a high-ranking official from one of the Middle Eastern  
24 countries who said the same thing, that the best bulwark  
25 against terrorism is stability. But, it seems to me, in

1 Africa, what you're really talking about is an all-of-  
2 government kind of approach, because you're really talking  
3 about trying to build stability as a national security  
4 concern, but that can't simply be the role of the military.  
5 How do you see your role in coordinating with other areas of  
6 the government and other governments in trying to build that  
7 essential bulwark against terrorism?

8 General Waldhauser: Senator, it's important that  
9 AFRICOM works with State Department, USAID, and our  
10 international partners to create an environment where we can  
11 have a stable Africa. You know, in the -- some people say  
12 that, as the planet is getting smaller, AFRICOM is getting  
13 larger. There are some studies out there that show, by  
14 2050, one in four people on the planet will be in Africa.  
15 So, the scale and the scope of some of the issues that we  
16 see today certainly could be magnified significantly.

17 Senator King: And the seeds of a catastrophe are in  
18 place, in terms of corruption, lack of economic growth, all  
19 of those kinds of elements. And that's why, it seems to me,  
20 prevention is -- should be a big part of the mission.

21 General Waldhauser: You're right, Senator. And one of  
22 the things that we do, on the military side, for training is  
23 not only emphasize the tactical competence of the forces  
24 that we train with, but the respect for the rule of law,  
25 ethics on the battlefield, and the like, to try to have more

1 of a -- a larger effect than just the tactical training.

2 Senator King: I think our mil-to-mil training, which  
3 I've seen in other parts of the world, is one of the best  
4 things that we do, in terms of not only the training,  
5 itself, but the inculcation of those values that you just  
6 mentioned. And I hope that's going to be an important part  
7 of your mission.

8 General Waldhauser: It is a big, important part,  
9 Senator, not only for Special Operations Forces, but for  
10 general-purpose forces, as well, who can contribute in that  
11 mission.

12 Senator King: Couple of quick questions about Libya.  
13 Does the GNA have popular support? Big question.

14 General Waldhauser: Senator, in my view, it's too  
15 early to tell. I mean, that's the whole purpose, right now,  
16 of the GNA, to try to rally support, to try to get these  
17 coalitions to pledge allegiance to the government. But, at  
18 the moment, it's too early to tell.

19 Senator King: Does the military -- is the military  
20 have -- take orders from the GNA to -- does the GNA control  
21 the military and the police forces?

22 General Waldhauser: Senator, to my knowledge, I would  
23 not use the word "control." I think, at the moment, these  
24 militias, it seems to me, appear to be working in the  
25 direction that Saraj would like to go. But, I would, at



1 this point and with my -- and, if confirmed, I'll look into  
2 this -- but, I would not use the word "control" for the GNA  
3 over the militias.

4 Senator King: But, ultimately, that's going to have to  
5 happen if they're going to control the territory.

6 General Waldhauser: Ultimately, it will have to  
7 happen, because that -- you know, you won't have a secure  
8 and working government unless they have control of a  
9 military, and, in this case, numerous militias across that  
10 country.

11 Senator King: Thank you, General.

12 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Chairman McCain: Senator Tillis.

14 Senator Tillis: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15 Gentlemen, thank you both for being here. And  
16 congratulations to your family and for you all being  
17 recognized for your past service and leadership. I look  
18 forward to supporting your nominations.

19 I have a couple of questions. And, General Lengyel, I  
20 think I'll start with you. Back when I was in the State  
21 House in North Carolina, I spent a lot of time with our  
22 National Guard and went to a lot of locations where their  
23 facilities were in serious need of upfit. We started a  
24 process about 3 years ago, 2 years ago, that ultimately  
25 culminated in a \$75 million bond that was passed by the

1 voters of North Carolina to start correcting things. But,  
2 is that a pervasive problem among the States? And what, in  
3 your new role, can you do to encourage the States to step in  
4 to make sure that these men and women who are -- serve in  
5 the Reserve and Guards are -- have the best facilities they  
6 can possibly have so they're ready to go?

7 General Lengyel: Yes, sir, it is a problem. It's  
8 pervasive. As we've hit these tough fiscal times, we have  
9 taken risk in -- one of the things we've done that is in  
10 infrastructure. And many of the States have armories and  
11 readiness centers that are old -- 50 years old, and they  
12 need to be relooked at. So, if confirmed, I'll work with  
13 States and with the National Guard to make sure, one, that  
14 we have them properly located and we can, you know, respond  
15 in the homeland as we need to. It's important that we are  
16 dispersed -- that's part of what we do here in the homeland  
17 for the adjutants general -- and use the funds we have  
18 wisely to fix them up.

19 Senator Tillis: Well, when you're confirmed, I look  
20 forward to working with you to at least do my part to work  
21 with the State leaders. And I think that the vote on behalf  
22 of the North Carolinian Senators is a -- or, I should say,  
23 voters -- is a real testament to how important we think the  
24 Guard is in North Carolina and to completing our overall  
25 mission for the country.

1           General Waldhauser, do you think, over the next 2 or 3  
2 years, your part of the world is going to be safer or filled  
3 with more threats?

4           General Waldhauser: Well, Senator, it's my job to try  
5 to make it more safer, but the threats there are  
6 significant. We've outlined them this morning. And it's  
7 our effort, it's our job, to disrupt those terrorist  
8 networks. It's our job to make sure that we provide  
9 training so the countries -- for example, Boko Haram, that  
10 we've talked about -- that those countries have the  
11 capability and capacity to go after those security threats.  
12 That's the ultimate goal. But, the bottom --

13           Senator Tillis: But, even with your good work with  
14 your neighbor, CENTCOM, with us not really doing a good job  
15 of reducing the threats and activity there, and then the  
16 movement of ISIS into places like the Sinai, which I know is  
17 in CENTCOM, but it's in your backyard, isn't it logical to  
18 assume that you're probably going to deal with more threats  
19 if we don't get to a winning strategy, where the highest  
20 number of threats are today?

21           General Waldhauser: Senator, simply put, yes.

22           Senator Tillis: Okay. So, then if we were -- I was  
23 recently on a CODEL -- we talked about this briefly in the  
24 office, but I thought it's worth bringing up here -- I was  
25 recently in a CODEL, stopped through in Spain, spoke with

1 some folks down there that are basically the alternative to  
2 a MEU in your neck of the woods, to help you with any sort  
3 of crisis situation. And I'm hearing now that they're going  
4 to cut some of their capacity to about half of what it is  
5 today. They're actually talking about bringing them back to  
6 North Carolina. So, if I was just advocating for something  
7 good for North Carolina, maybe I should be saying that's a  
8 good thing. But, I think they need to be out there to  
9 provide you with the capabilities you need in a time of  
10 crisis. Do you think, with the threat curve moving in this  
11 direction, that it makes sense for our capability curve to  
12 move in that direction?

13 General Waldhauser: Senator, the answer is no.  
14 However, I believe Chairman Dunford addressed that issue  
15 before this committee, and there is some risk involved, but  
16 the reduction in those aircraft from 12 to 6 is something  
17 that has been looked at, and something that we think we can  
18 live with the risk, based on the mission set that that  
19 particular force has.

20 Senator Tillis: That's what I love about you guys,  
21 because you're always going to try and complete the mission,  
22 even when we make it more difficult for you.

23 The last question, for both of you, is -- and I think,  
24 General Lengyel, you were the one who was talking about  
25 needing certainty in funding streams -- Does sequestration

1 represent any element of certainty whatsoever, or is it  
2 probably the single greatest threat to you being able to  
3 provide certainty?

4 General Lengyel: Sir, sequestration would devastate  
5 the ability to generate forces and maintain readiness across  
6 the force.

7 Senator Tillis: Thank you.

8 General Waldhauser?

9 General Waldhauser: Sir, I'd second the same, nothing  
10 additional to add.

11 Senator Tillis: Thank you.

12 Look forward to supporting your nominations.

13 Chairman McCain: Senator Donnelly.

14 Senator Donnelly: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 I want to thank your families for all you have done for  
16 the country, as well, and to both of you.

17 I know Senator Ernst talked about this a little bit,  
18 but, General Lengyel, what kind of work did you do to improve  
19 mental health support and to reduce suicides during your  
20 time as Vice Chief of the National Guard?

21 General Lengyel: Senator, I think, you know, we have  
22 raised this level of issue at every event that we have with  
23 senior leaders. It's a tragedy that we need to continue to  
24 work. I want to thank this committee and you for the Jacob  
25 Sexton Act to give our ability to get the psychological

1 health evaluations, to provide more psychological health  
2 providers in the States, to get the help to the people that  
3 we need. There's a lot of programs. And the problem is  
4 making people aware and giving them access to all of the  
5 programs that exist. So, that has been a -- an ongoing  
6 effort. And, if confirmed, I'll continue it.

7 Senator Donnelly: So, is the ability to make them  
8 aware of the programs they have, is that one of the top  
9 priorities that you have? And how would you go about that?

10 General Lengyel: Well, we do it by making sure that  
11 the adjutant generals are aware, by getting the advocacy and  
12 -- from the actual providers to actually go to the units.  
13 During when we have gatherings for the National Guard  
14 Association or large events, we have them come and provide  
15 awareness. So, it's a continual effort, Senator, to make  
16 sure that people are aware and they have access. And we  
17 have some unique issues with the National Guard. We don't  
18 see people every day. We're dispersed all over the place.  
19 Some people are under-insured, some people have, you know,  
20 difficulty, you know, getting to places where TRICARE is  
21 accepted. TRICARE Reserve Select is a great benefit, but  
22 it's not accepted readily every place around the country.  
23 So, all of those issues we continue to work, day in, day  
24 out, to get people the care they need. And, overall, to  
25 stress that getting people to declare, and let them know

1 that reaching out is a sign of strength. And that's a  
2 continued theme throughout the National Guard.

3 Senator Donnelly: As you look at this, are there other  
4 things on this end we can do? You know, as you look at  
5 this, you go, "Hey, I need help with this," or "I need help  
6 with that" to try to move the ball forward more in the area  
7 of mental health. Is there anything in particular that you  
8 can think of right now, or will you share that with us when  
9 you're in the office, that, after you take it, you don't  
10 hesitate to come back to us on?

11 General Lengyel: Senator, if confirmed and if I become  
12 aware of something that I think this committee can do to  
13 help, I'll raise it to you immediately.

14 Senator Donnelly: Thank you.

15 I also want to ask you, How do you ensure that the  
16 opinions of the adjutant generals are heard and considered  
17 within the Joint Chiefs?

18 General Lengyel: Well, Senator, I think that's  
19 probably the most important thing I do as the Chief of the  
20 National Guard Bureau, is draw from them their needs, their  
21 requirements, their issues from the 54 States, realizing  
22 that they are interested and charged with the readiness of  
23 their National Guard inside their State. And then, as we do  
24 that and we build -- participate inside the processes inside  
25 the Pentagon, I synthesize that into what I think is my best

1 military advice to the Secretary of Defense on what to do  
2 with that. So, I think it's important that I talk to them  
3 all the time, assess their requirements, and convey them to  
4 the Department. I convey directly what they believe.

5 Senator Donnelly: Thank you.

6 General Waldhauser, given the incredibly difficult  
7 situation in Libya and the spread of violent extremism  
8 throughout East and West Africa, what do you think is the  
9 biggest shortcoming we have in AFRICOM right now in dealing  
10 with this? And what are the kind of things you're lining up  
11 to try to make sure we have more success?

12 General Waldhauser: Senator, I think one of the  
13 shortcomings we have at the moment is adequate ISR inside  
14 AFRICOM to help do things such as develop targets. As you  
15 know, a lot of the ISR is devoted to CENTCOM, and rightfully  
16 so. But, if we wanted to strike at various times, and we  
17 want to provide intelligence to the partner nations and let  
18 them do their job, then ISR would be something that would be  
19 a valuable addition.

20 Additionally, because of the size of the continent, the  
21 ability to have rescue of personnel and be able to pick up  
22 personnel is a difficult task. We talked earlier about the  
23 Special Purpose MAGTF in Spain, which has responsibilities  
24 on the western side of Africa. We also have a response  
25 force out of Djibouti, in eastern Africa, which does that



1 there. It's better than it was, and we certainly have a  
2 capability, but, make no mistake, there are some risks there  
3 with regards to time and space.

4 Senator Donnelly: What are the connections between  
5 ISIL and existing terror groups around the African region,  
6 such as Boko Haram, al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, and al-  
7 Shabaab?

8 General Waldhauser: Senator Boko Haram is interesting,  
9 in that about a year ago ISIL -- or Boko Haram pledged its  
10 support to ISIL, but, over that time, it's -- you have  
11 different opinions as to what -- how much influence ISIL has  
12 had on Boko Haram. They certainly have not given them a lot  
13 of financial assistance. So, the point being is that  
14 perhaps an improvement in tradecraft, in training, and the  
15 like.

16 Recently, this spring, several months ago, about half  
17 of Boko Haram broke off to a separate group because they  
18 were not happy with the amount of buy-in, if you will, from  
19 Boko Haram into the ISIL brand. And so, right now you have  
20 ISIL, who is trying to have Boko Haram reconcile those two  
21 groups. But, the point being is that Shekau, who is the  
22 original leader of Boko Haram, has not fallen -- has not  
23 really fallen into line with what ISIL would like him to do.  
24 So, for example, he uses children as suicide bombers, he  
25 attacks other Muslims. And he's been told by ISIL to stop

1 doing that, but he has not done so. And that's one of the  
2 reasons why this splinter group has broken off.

3 So, these relationships are very, very complex. Why  
4 ISIL wanted to, you know, sponsor, if you will, Boko Haram,  
5 there's interests on both sides of that. But, at -- the  
6 bottom line for Boko Haram is, it's still questionable as to  
7 how much influence exactly they've had both back and forth  
8 with ISIL.

9 Senator Donnelly: Thank you. Thank you both.

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Chairman McCain: Senator Sullivan.

12 Senator Sullivan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 And thank you, gentlemen, for your years of service,  
14 decades of service. And, congratulations to you and your  
15 family on the nomination.

16 General Lengyel, I want to talk about the National  
17 Guard's role in the Arctic. You may have seen a report,  
18 over the weekend, that the Russians launched, with much  
19 fanfare, one of their newest massive icebreakers, nuclear-  
20 powered. They have 40. They're building 13 more. Even the  
21 Secretary of Defense said this is a very strategic region of  
22 the Nation for the United States, because of transportation,  
23 commerce, natural resources, but we're late to the game.  
24 What role do you see the National Guard playing to help  
25 defend U.S. interests in this part of the world where we're

1 way behind some of the potential adversaries that we see in  
2 the region?

3 General Lengyel: Well, Senator, I think the National  
4 Guard, the Army and the Air, will play what -- the same role  
5 inside their services, inside the Air Force and inside the  
6 Army, that we do in all the rest of the U.S. Northern  
7 Command AOR. I think that --

8 Senator Sullivan: Do you see that as a strategically  
9 important region for the --

10 General Lengyel: I do. I do. And there's lots of  
11 National Guard folks doing very important missions up there.  
12 We've got, obviously, the rescue operation for the Alaska  
13 Air National Guard, which can be critical in the Arctic when  
14 they start using that transportation corridor more often.  
15 Ballistic missile defense and ballistic early warning radar  
16 systems at Greeley and Clear, Alaska, hugely important  
17 National Guard missions that -- directly related to national  
18 security.

19 Senator Sullivan: Let me turn to the issue that  
20 General Goldfein was talking about during his confirmation  
21 hearing last week, and that's the F-35 maintainer shortage.  
22 Senator Heinrich and I actually had a -- an amendment in the  
23 NDAA that helped the -- had the Air Force looking at how to  
24 address that shortage. What role do you see the Guard or  
25 the Reserves playing with regard to try and have Active or

1 Reserve or Guard personnel addressing that, as opposed to  
2 contractors?

3 General Lengyel: Sir, I just -- the Air National Guard  
4 is so integrated with the United States Air Force, we're in  
5 every issue. I mean, in every platform, we're being  
6 recapitalized. We have all the same issues to train our  
7 maintainers to fly our airplanes. You know, the -- we've  
8 actually moved the upgrade of the -- for Burlington,  
9 Vermont, unit up a little bit to assist the Air Force with  
10 maintainer issues that they're trying to grow. So, I think  
11 that we're fully integrated with the Air Force. And if we  
12 can help them do maintainers, we -- maintenance is a  
13 skillset in the National Guard that is strong. We have  
14 experienced maintainers maintain platforms for a long time.  
15 And if we can help the Air Force with the F-35 or any other  
16 platform, we'll do it.

17 Senator Sullivan: Let me just turn to the issue -- you  
18 know, in Alaska, the Guard is obviously very integrated into  
19 all our Active and Reserve military operations. We are  
20 becoming, rapidly, the hub air combat power for the Asia-  
21 Pacific, with 100 fifth-generation fighters that are going  
22 to be located in Alaska. Over 100. C-17s, C-130s, KC-135s,  
23 three red-flag exercises, 24/7 alert missions, intercepting  
24 Russian bombers, you know, on a weekly basis now. And a lot  
25 of this, as you know, General, is integrated Guard, Reserve,

1 and Active forces.

2 Senator King mentioned the KC-46. We think there's a  
3 lot of strategic value of giving a hard look at Alaska with  
4 regard to that base, and given that we are the hub air  
5 combat power in so many ways. Can I get your commitment, if  
6 confirmed, to come to Alaska and take a hard look at these  
7 issues and how they might relate to the basing decision of  
8 the KC-46?

9 General Lengyel: Absolutely, Senator.

10 Senator Sullivan: And then, finally, I wanted to just  
11 mention --

12 Chairman McCain: That be in the summer, hopefully?

13 [Laughter.]

14 Senator Sullivan: You can go to Arizona in the summer.

15 In the NDAA, we had an amendment that talked about  
16 giving the Guard leadership the discretion to lift, on a  
17 case-by-case basis, the reimbursement cap for travel of  
18 Guard members in rural areas to be able to travel to their  
19 destination for training. And, as you know, right now the  
20 cap is \$300, and, for a lot of different Reserve and Guard  
21 members in different States, that can be a -- just a  
22 fraction of the costs they actually have to incur just to go  
23 train. And I just was wondering if you'd seen that  
24 amendment, and how you think that could help with regard to  
25 recruitment and training in different rural parts of the

1 country, particularly as it relates to getting some of these  
2 young men and women who are in rural areas, who are great,  
3 great members of the military, but often can't afford to go  
4 do the Reserve duty because the costs are so prohibitive.  
5 Do you see that as a positive development, where you'll have  
6 that -- your leadership will have that discretion on a case-  
7 by-case basis to lift that, in terms of recruitment and  
8 retention?

9 General Lengyel: Yes, Senator, I do. I see the Alaska  
10 environment as distinctly unique. I mean, it is absolutely  
11 --

12 Senator Sullivan: It's not just Alaska, though. This  
13 is the --

14 General Lengyel: Right. Right.

15 Senator Sullivan: -- this is California --

16 General Lengyel: I know. But, you have places where  
17 they don't have roads, and you have people who want to  
18 serve, and so, yes, I do see it as a very positive  
19 development, which I would support.

20 Senator Sullivan: Thank you.

21 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Chairman McCain: Senator Hirono.

23 Senator Hirono: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Thank you both, you and your families, for your  
25 service.

1           General Lengyel, I wanted to express my continued  
2 support for Eagle Vision. And I have been working with  
3 Senator Graham to ensure that the Air Force continues to  
4 keep the system updated and operating. As you know, we have  
5 a unit with the Hawaii Air National Guard. And, should you  
6 be confirmed, I hope that you will work with the Chief of  
7 Staff of the Air Force and the Air Force leadership to also  
8 continue to support the system which provides invaluable  
9 support in domestic disaster relief operations as well as  
10 for international efforts with our friends and allies. And  
11 I would like to see more stability with this program so  
12 that, year after year, we're not worrying about moving this  
13 out of Hawaii as one of the places where Eagle Vision  
14 operates.

15           I wanted to turn to cyber. Some other of my colleagues  
16 have asked questions relating to this area. So, General  
17 Lengyel, the cyber capabilities of our country are more  
18 important than ever. And I know the National Guard Bureau  
19 is working to stand up new cyber units or teams in the  
20 future. With the rebalance to the Indo-Asia-Pacific, with  
21 the State's critical infrastructure on Oahu supporting  
22 PACOM, Pacific PACAF, as well as the National Guard and NSA,  
23 which has a really big presence on Oahu, I hope that, as you  
24 consider new locations for cyber protection teams, that  
25 Hawaii be given full consideration with the assets that need

1 to be protected against growing cyberthreats.

2 So, with this big focus on cyber and the deep private-  
3 sector skills current and future Air National Guard airmen  
4 can bring to this field, what is the Air National Guard Air  
5 Force team doing, in terms of recruiting new personnel as  
6 well as to get our more technically capable Air National  
7 Guard airmen into cyber missions? And how are you  
8 integrating cyber throughout the total force and increasing  
9 Air Force and Air National Guard cyber capabilities?

10 General Lengyel: Yes, Senator. With respect to the  
11 Air National Guard, as I mentioned, we're -- we have 15  
12 units, and we are in the process -- we have about half of  
13 those built, actually manned and trained and operating, and  
14 the remainder to be finished and operational by the end of  
15 fiscal year '18. That's currently the plan.

16 So, how do we get these people? Well, we get them from  
17 various different places. We actually have become, like the  
18 Reserve component is for all missions, a receptacle to  
19 capture the people who are actually leaving the Active  
20 component who can -- still want to serve. Who when -- we  
21 can't compete with military salaries with what these people  
22 can make on the outside, but many still want to serve, and  
23 they can do that in the Guard and Reserve. So, we're  
24 getting some there. We're also looking to try and find  
25 equivalency so that we can bring people in who have civilian



1 skillsets that are already trained in the IT enterprise, to  
2 use them to come in and bring them quicker and save training  
3 slots to get the school.

4 So, as I say, we're working hard to continue to build  
5 this enterprise. I understand Hawaii has got a lot of cyber  
6 mission and capacity out there. And so, as we look to build  
7 more, perhaps after '18, if -- once the current cyber  
8 mission force is built, we'll look to do that.

9 Senator Hirono: Well, I iterate the programs and  
10 entities that we have in Hawaii because, as you continue to  
11 set up more of these cyber teams that -- with all of the  
12 assets we have there, not to mention Pacific Command there,  
13 and NSA, I'd really like to ensure that Hawaii be given  
14 every consideration for a team.

15 For both of you, I'm glad that a number of my  
16 colleagues have talked about the importance of the State  
17 Partnership Program. And I just want to iterate my support  
18 for that program.

19 For General Waldhauser, I want to turn to China and  
20 Russia in Africa. In his testimony in March, General  
21 Rodriguez mentioned that both China and Russia were seeking  
22 to expand their influence in Africa. In your advance policy  
23 questions, you addressed China's increasing influence and  
24 economic interests in Africa, as well. In your opinion,  
25 what is China's goal? And how will the influence of China

1 in the region impact our peacekeeping efforts? And how  
2 concerned should we be with China's activities in Africa?

3 General Waldhauser: Senator, China's concerns in  
4 Africa are markets and minerals. I think, in the long term,  
5 from an economic perspective, as the African continent  
6 continues to grow, as we've described several times this  
7 morning, markets are very important to China. Some will  
8 call the class that will eventually take hold inside Africa  
9 as a consumer class. So, China is interested in those  
10 markets.

11 With regards to peacekeeping, China does have  
12 peacekeepers inside the continent. South Sudan, for  
13 example. Moreover, China is building a facility in  
14 Djibouti. So, they're not in competition for us militarily,  
15 but economically is where they're trying to go.

16 The Russians sell a lot of arms. The Chinese sell a  
17 lot of arms inside of Africa, because no strings attached  
18 and the prices are usually very small. So, it's Russia is  
19 -- probably supplies the most weapons. China is the second.  
20 And sometimes that may or may -- and certainly with the  
21 Chinese, they don't come with any strings. There's no, you  
22 know, human rights issues or training and whatnot. So, that  
23 makes some of these countries -- it makes China an  
24 attractive seller of weapons to them.

25 Senator Hirono: Thank you.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Chairman McCain: Senator Graham.

3 Senator Graham: Thank you both. I think you're great  
4 choices by the President. And congratulations.

5 General Lengyel, there are 100- -- let's see --  
6 105,000, I think, members of the Air Guard, and 335,000  
7 members in the Army Guard. Is that enough?

8 General Lengyel: Sir, at the end of this year, we'll  
9 have 342,000 in the Air -- in the Army National Guard and  
10 about 105-5 in the Air National Guard. Doing only enough to  
11 do -- what is the question? And I mean the --

12 Senator Graham: To deal with the threats we face as a  
13 Nation.

14 General Lengyel: So, as you aggregate the threats, it  
15 -- you know, it becomes difficult to fight Korea and fight  
16 Russia and fight counterterrorism. The risk is high. And  
17 --

18 Senator Graham: So, it's a high-risk number?

19 General Lengyel: It is.

20 Senator Graham: Okay. Let's say in 2021 sequestration  
21 hits. What will the numbers be? They go down or they go  
22 up?

23 General Lengyel: They go down.

24 Senator Graham: So, is that even a higher risk?

25 General Lengyel: Yes, sir.

1           Senator Graham: Okay. Is the 105-day voluntary  
2 mobilization limitation statute -- does that impede your  
3 ability to recruit, retain, and defend the Nation?

4           General Lengyel: So, 1095 rule, Senator, is the rule  
5 there. If you have somebody who volunteers to be mobilized,  
6 they can do that for 1,095 days. And then you need a  
7 waiver.

8           Senator Graham: 105 day -- 1,095 --

9           General Lengyel: 1,000- --

10          Senator Graham: Gotcha.

11          General Lengyel: It's 3 years, essentially.

12          Senator Graham: Yeah.

13          General Lengyel: And so, yeah --

14          Senator Graham: Do you need --

15          General Lengyel: -- it is a problem --

16          Senator Graham: -- a waiver?

17          General Lengyel: -- because we -- we've got places  
18 where, in some of our higher-demand missions, like RPAs or  
19 the intelligence missions or those kinds of things --

20          Senator Graham: Right.

21          General Lengyel: -- these are citizen soldiers who  
22 have volunteered to do these missions, as opposed to be  
23 mandatorily mobilized -- involuntarily mobilized.

24          Senator Graham: So, you would suggest -- could you  
25 send over a recommendation how to change that?

1 General Lengyel: I would.

2 Senator Graham: Okay, thank you.

3 General Waldhauser, Libya. Do we fly in Libya?

4 General Waldhauser: We have -- the answer is yes, if  
5 there is a target that is of imminent threat to the United  
6 States.

7 Senator Graham: Okay. Is ISIL an imminent threat to  
8 the United States?

9 General Waldhauser: Yes.

10 Senator Graham: Is ISIL in Libya?

11 General Waldhauser: Yes.

12 Senator Graham: How many sorties have we flown in  
13 Libya?

14 General Waldhauser: To my knowledge, none at this  
15 time.

16 Senator Graham: That makes no sense, then, does it?

17 General Waldhauser: It does not. What I can say,  
18 Senator, at this time, is there are being -- targets that  
19 are being developed, but there have no been flights flown.

20 Senator Graham: How many people do we have on the  
21 ground in Libya?

22 General Waldhauser: I do -- I don't have that answer.  
23 It's not a large number.

24 Senator Graham: Do we need people on the ground in  
25 Libya?

1 General Waldhauser: Yes, we do.

2 Senator Graham: Okay. Do you see any change in policy  
3 anytime in the near future?

4 General Waldhauser: I'm not aware of any of those  
5 discussions, Senator.

6 Senator Graham: Does the buildup of ISIL and other  
7 related al Qaeda-type groups present a threat to our  
8 European allies?

9 General Waldhauser: Eventually, they could, yes.

10 Senator Graham: Thank you. When it comes to Africa,  
11 what are the rules of engagement, in terms of targeting ISIL  
12 in Africa?

13 General Waldhauser: Senator, I believe the rules of  
14 engagement have to do with the presidential policy guidance.  
15 That's what -- that's what -- when these targets pop up, the  
16 three that I've mentioned that were hit in Libya this year,  
17 they fall under that criteria.

18 Senator Graham: Okay. But, you don't have the  
19 authority to -- without presidential direction, to go and  
20 find ISIL members in Africa and kill them?

21 General Waldhauser: Well, sir, the answer is -- do we  
22 have a -- if the question is, Do we have authority to take  
23 out targets? The AFRICOM Commander has some authority for  
24 various targets in Somalia, for example, with al-Shabaab,  
25 but I'm not familiar with the details. And, if confirmed --

1           Senator Graham: Do you have authority, as AFRICOM  
2 Commander, to go after ISIL targets in Africa on your own?

3           General Waldhauser: I do not.

4           Senator Graham: Do you think that would be wise to  
5 have that authority?

6           General Waldhauser: It would be wise. It would  
7 certainly contribute to what we're trying to do inside  
8 Libya.

9           Senator Graham: Is the war moving to Africa over time,  
10 do you think?

11          General Waldhauser: It could. It's possible. I mean,  
12 that's why ISIL is taking hold inside Sirte, to be kind of a  
13 backup if Iraq and Syria fail.

14          Senator Graham: So, the ungoverned spaces in Africa  
15 are likely places for ISIL to flee to if we dislodge them  
16 from the traditional MidEast?

17          General Waldhauser: They're very likely. That's why  
18 instability inside Africa is to ISIL's advantage.

19          Senator Graham: When you come to, say, ISR shortages,  
20 how severe is that for your command?

21          General Waldhauser: Senator, if confirmed, I'd have to  
22 look into that to be specific. I think, in the main, it's  
23 -- goes without saying. I think it's common knowledge that  
24 AFRICOM's economy of theater, I think it's common knowledge  
25 that Africa could use more ISR. But, beyond that, I don't

1 have the specifics.

2 Senator Graham: Is it a fair statement, when it comes  
3 to radical Islamic threats emanating from Africa, we've got  
4 a long way to go in upping our game?

5 General Waldhauser: We do. I mean, we have to keep --  
6 that's an away game. I know that you've mentioned before,  
7 we are fighting an away game in Africa to contain it on that  
8 continent.

9 Senator Graham: I can't thank you -- I'm just --  
10 that's about as direct testimony as ever heard from this  
11 committee. So, I look forward to supporting you both.

12 Thank you.

13 Chairman McCain: Senator Heinrich.

14 Senator Heinrich: Thank you, Chairman.

15 Lieutenant General Lengyel, in 2013 an estimated 26  
16 pure metric tons of heroin were produced in Mexico. Most of  
17 that came into the United States directly across the  
18 southwestern border. I think the Chair can probably attest  
19 to that, as well. And tragically, in that same year, over  
20 8,000 people died in the U.S. due to heroin overdose.  
21 Unfortunately, my home State of New Mexico had the second-  
22 highest rate of drug overdose deaths in the country that  
23 year.

24 New Mexico shares a 179-mile border with Mexico, and  
25 yet it is only provided enough funding for five National



1 Guard personnel in the budget request to fight this  
2 epidemic, due to a -- what I would call a failed resourcing  
3 model.

4 Do you think that the National Guard is prioritizing  
5 its counterdrug resources effectively? And, if confirmed,  
6 will you take a hard look at the resource allocations  
7 nationwide, particularly those along the southwest border,  
8 and consider adjustments to that model so that we can stop  
9 these drugs before they actually enter the country?

10 General Lengyel: Senator, I can tell you that the  
11 counterdrug funding is dispersed through the threat-based  
12 resource model. I would tell you it's -- I'm 100 percent  
13 sure it's probably not 100 percent right. But, I think it's  
14 an -- it is a process agreed upon by all of the 54 States,  
15 territories, and the District of Columbia, all of which, I  
16 think, also have a requirement for counterdrug funding. I  
17 can tell you that, if confirmed, I will look at this system  
18 and look at this process, and make my own personal  
19 determination as to whether or not it's the absolute best  
20 system that we have.

21 Senator Heinrich: I would just urge you to do that. I  
22 think if you look at the hard numbers for all of the States,  
23 the reality is, if you can stop that influx before it gets  
24 to the States, it's much easier to track it down once it's  
25 in the interior of the United States. And I have real

1 heartburn over the fact that, while we're dedicating  
2 enormous resources to the border in New Mexico, we are not  
3 even in the top half, and yet we have 179 miles of border.  
4 That is a very difficult thing to justify, I think.

5 I want to switch gears to the CV-22. There -- the  
6 unique ability of the CV-22 to blend the vertical flight  
7 capabilities of a helicopter with speed and range and  
8 altitude and the endurance of a fixed-wing turboprop plane  
9 have made it an incredibly valuable asset to Air Force  
10 Special Operations Command. And, while AFSOC continues to  
11 utilize this capability, I think that the National Guard can  
12 equally benefit from this multimission aircraft. What value  
13 could the CV-22 bring to the Guard and its role, in  
14 particular, in things like natural disaster relief and  
15 emergency response?

16 General Lengyel: Senator, I think the CV-22 is a great  
17 platform, for a multitude of reasons, and it has huge  
18 application in, not just the warfight, but for the National  
19 Guard here in the homeland. It can go places far, quickly,  
20 carry people. And I think there's a lot of good things  
21 about considering putting that platform in the National  
22 Guard.

23 Senator Heinrich: So, you would support the Air  
24 Force's consideration of procuring additional CV-22s for  
25 attrition reserve to supplement AFSOC's current fleet?

1           General Lengyel: I absolutely would.

2           Senator Heinrich: Great.

3           Lieutenant General Waldhauser, I want to shift gears to  
4 you for just a minute. You mentioned ISR. A couple of  
5 folks brought that up. If you could, knowing what you know  
6 now, and obviously not knowing all the details, but if you  
7 had more ISR resources, do you have thoughts for what would  
8 give you the most bang for the buck for the AFRICOM region?

9           General Waldhauser: I think what would give most bang  
10 for the buck would certainly be ISIL in Libya, and then also  
11 Boko Haram, to assist those countries from the Lake Chad  
12 Basin region and that multinational joint task force to  
13 taking on Boko Haram at this time.

14          Senator Heinrich: Do you -- you mentioned the  
15 splintering that seems to be going on in West Africa right  
16 now with those groups. Are there opportunities to use that  
17 splintering within Boko Haram or ISIL of West Africa,  
18 whatever you want to call it? Does that present any  
19 opportunities, in terms of pushing back the terrorist threat  
20 in West Africa?

21          General Waldhauser: Senator, I think there are  
22 opportunities, but there's also limitations. It appears  
23 that Shekau, who's the leader of the core Boko Haram group  
24 --

25          Senator Heinrich: Right.

1           General Waldhauser:  -- he's not shown any significant  
2 interest to attack Western targets, certainly outside that  
3 region.  So, that, in a sense, is good.  Not that we should  
4 keep him there, but that's --

5           Senator Heinrich:  Sure.

6           General Waldhauser:  -- been his tendency.  What  
7 concerns me is the breakoff group of Boko Haram who wants to  
8 be more ISIL-like, and, consequently, buy into the ISIL  
9 brand of attacking Western interests.  That would concern  
10 me.

11          Senator Heinrich:  My time's expired.  Thank you very  
12 much.

13          Chairman McCain:  Senator Kaine.

14          Senator Kaine:  Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15          And thanks, to the witnesses.  Congratulations on your  
16 nominations and your great service.

17          General Waldhauser, I want to ask you a couple of  
18 aspects about AFRICOM.  First, Senator King talked to you  
19 about the value of our military training.  And I have felt,  
20 just as he has, that the training we do of foreign  
21 militaries, whether it's in their country or bringing  
22 foreign military leaders here, is one of the best bangs for  
23 the buck we get, in terms of building up strong  
24 relationships.  And I've been very interested in the extent  
25 of the mil-to-mil training that we do in AFRICOM.  Could you

1 just describe a little bit to the committee some of the  
2 training that is currently taking place with the Special  
3 Purpose MAGTVs and others, and your thought about the value  
4 of that mil-to-mil training on the continent?

5 General Waldhauser: Senator, I think it's important,  
6 when we talk about mil-to-mil training, to think about it in  
7 terms of three levels. The tactical training probably is  
8 the easiest, so to speak -- how to shoot a weapon, how to  
9 conduct a patrol, how to issue an order. We can do that,  
10 and we can do that well. Moreover, our partners can do  
11 that, and do that well. Where we, as the United States, and  
12 where we, as the U.S. military, can make significant  
13 differences is at -- what I would call at the executive or  
14 operational level. So, for example, take a service-level  
15 headquarters, those who would train, organize, and equip,  
16 and budget for forces are all part of this military  
17 training. Then, thirdly, I would say that, at the highly  
18 executive level, call it the OSD Secretary of Defense level,  
19 we need to make sure that government understands what their  
20 role is, and how that military supports the government.

21 So, it's really three levels. It's the tactical level,  
22 which is the one that we all tend to think about, and the  
23 one that we do very well, but we also have to consider those  
24 other two levels, because that's all part of building an  
25 army in these countries.

1           Senator Kaine: I'm on the Foreign Relations Committee,  
2 and we often are interacting with our key diplomats who are  
3 posted abroad, including in Africa. And they will often  
4 tell us that the demand by our African partners to have the  
5 U.S. engaged in training is huge. And that speaks well, not  
6 only of the kind of training we do, but of the desire of  
7 these countries to really have the U.S. as a partner. Has  
8 that been your experience?

9           General Waldhauser: Senator, that's a great point,  
10 because there are many areas on the continent where the  
11 United States is welcome, they want us to come and train.  
12 And so, we have to leverage that. And yes, we provide, I'm  
13 sure, the best military training, at -- certainly at the  
14 tactical level, in the world. But, at the same time, it's a  
15 large continent, and we've got other priorities. And so, we  
16 need to help our partner nations be part of this overall  
17 effort. It's a -- that's a big part of what we need to do,  
18 from the diplomatic perspective, is to get other nations to  
19 contribute. We can certainly lead and coordinate, but we  
20 need help from others, because the size and the scope and  
21 the scale on Africa is something that's sometimes difficult  
22 to imagine.

23           Senator Kaine: You also were in an interchange with  
24 Senator King about the countering violent extremism  
25 challenge before us, which is not purely a military

1 challenge. And you talked about the need to have strong  
2 partnership with organizations like USAID. I know this is a  
3 nomination hearing, you are not currently in the position,  
4 but I'd like you to talk a little bit more about your views  
5 of the value of USAID in anti-radicalization and countering  
6 violent extremism activities in Africa.

7 General Waldhauser: Senator, USAID is a combat  
8 multiplier, certainly on the continent of Africa. We've got  
9 to be able to establish programs, educational programs that  
10 give these -- the youth of the continent, which is, again, a  
11 youth bulge in the demographics of that continent -- we've  
12 got to give them a way ahead, a path, something to look  
13 forward to. And that's something that we need to work  
14 closely with USAID, because that's a combat multiplier to  
15 what AFRICOM can bring to that continent.

16 And again, it's our -- it's not only what we're doing  
17 today, but it's the future inside Africa. When you look at  
18 these population demographics, 25 years from now, 15-25  
19 years from now, they are going to be multiplied  
20 significantly.

21 And so, we are welcomed on the continent. These  
22 programs are well received. And we've got to foster and  
23 advocate for them, because they will play, in my view, a  
24 huge part at getting at the conditions that will deal with  
25 the radicalization of these young men.

1           Senator Kaine: General Waldhauser, I attempted, in the  
2 markup of the NDAA, to offer an amendment that would have  
3 allowed DOD, upon approval by the SECDEF, to do some  
4 flexible transfer of funds to USAID to accomplish CVE goals  
5 that the DOD viewed as more likely to be achieved by USAID  
6 than an internal DOD program. I was not able to get that  
7 pilot program added to the NDAA, but, it has gained the  
8 support of a number of folks -- General Allen, Admiral  
9 Stavridis. I think the HASC Chairman on the other side,  
10 Representative Thornberry, saw its merit. And I'm going to  
11 continue to advocate for it.

12           I think that one of the great aspects of AFRICOM,  
13 really since its formation, was the desire that it operate  
14 in kind of a whole-of-government approach, not a stovepiped  
15 approach. The CVE mission, we would all agree, is  
16 absolutely critical. We see evidence of it -- the need for  
17 it every day. And we ought to be using the funds that we  
18 devote to it in a -- in the manner that is most likely to be  
19 effective. And I'm going to keep advocating for that.

20           And again, appreciate both of you being here, and wish  
21 you the best.

22           General Waldhauser: Thank you.

23           Chairman McCain: Well, there are many of us who think  
24 that funding should come out of the proper function,  
25 according to the appropriations process, rather than again



1 dipping into what is clearly argued for defense. USAID is  
2 clearly a State Department program, not a Pentagon program.  
3 One of the biggest problems we have is the Willie Sutton  
4 syndrome that if you need money, just go into the defense  
5 account, because it's the largest.

6 General Lengyel, we've had very great success, in  
7 coordination on the border with the National Guard,  
8 carefully observing posse comitatus. But, there are many  
9 functions that the Guard, from all over America, has had on  
10 the Arizona border for training, for observation, for many  
11 ways of assistance. And, frankly, I don't see that -- in  
12 fact, I -- in some ways, I see it kind of dying out. What's  
13 your view on that?

14 General Lengyel: Well, Senator, we have done, in the  
15 past, a more robust training effort and more robust direct  
16 activity in support of --

17 Chairman McCain: Do you think, given the flood of  
18 manufactured heroin that's coming across our southern  
19 border, that we should make use of the talents that exist,  
20 the National Guard? And isn't it excellent training  
21 experience for them --

22 General Lengyel: Yes, sir. In --

23 Chairman McCain: -- especially when the --

24 General Lengyel: -- many cases --

25 Chairman McCain: -- temperature is 120 on the border?

1           General Lengyel: Yes, sir. In many cases, it is  
2 excellent training. And I would offer that, if confirmed, I  
3 could talk to the NORTHCOM Commander and Department of  
4 Homeland Security and see how we could best integrate our  
5 training activities into their plans to secure the border.  
6 I think there is more we could do, and I would be absolutely  
7 willing to do that.

8           Chairman McCain: Would you get -- for the purposes of  
9 the record, submit to the committee a list of the areas that  
10 you think where the Guard could be utilized, again, with  
11 careful observation of the posse comitatus, that we don't  
12 put armed National Guard on the border -- whether we should  
13 or not is a subject of different discussion -- but, for  
14 those measures that could be taken -- for example, regular  
15 rotation out on the border amongst various State National  
16 Guard so we can supplement -- we are short of Border Patrol,  
17 we are short of Customs agents. So, I'd appreciate it if  
18 you would submit, for the record, areas that the committee  
19 could emphasize in our legislative efforts.

20           General Lengyel: Yes, Senator.

21           [The information referred to follows:]

22           [COMMITTEE INSERT]

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1 Chairman McCain: Finally, General, I want to say that  
2 it's pretty obvious that the apple didn't fall very hard --  
3 far from the tree. Your father and my other comrades that  
4 had the honor of serving have a very close and warm and  
5 loving relationship, as you know. So, I hope you'll give  
6 your -- my best to your father and thank him for his  
7 service. And I know that this is a very proud moment for  
8 him, to have you assuming this position of great  
9 responsibility. So, please give him my best regards.

10 General Lengyel: Yes, sir, I will. And he passes you  
11 his.

12 Chairman McCain: Thank you.

13 We will try to move -- there may be some questions for  
14 the record -- for example, what I just said, and -- but, we  
15 will try to move the nominations as quickly as possible so  
16 that we don't go into the July recess without acting on your  
17 nominations.

18 And, General Waldhauser, I want to thank you for your  
19 candor before the committee. We look forward to working  
20 with you. I think that Senator Graham's questions clearly  
21 indicated that, at least as far as ISIS is concerned, the --  
22 Africa is their next target of opportunity. And I think  
23 you're going to need a lot of help. And so, we'll look  
24 forward to working closely with you as you assume these  
25 added responsibilities.

1 This hearing is adjourned.

2 [Whereupon, at 11:20 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

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