

# The Alliance Matters

*Quarterly Newsletter of the CNY Defense Alliance*

4th Quarter 2018



Visit us at [www.cnydefensesalliance.org](http://www.cnydefensesalliance.org)

Welcome to “The Alliance Matters,” where you can read about our initiatives and accomplishments and relevant news about CNY, our defense ecosystem, our members, partners, and upcoming events.

***Federal and Defense assets power CNY's high-tech economy. The Alliance works to protect and expand those assets and the countless jobs and opportunities they bring to the region. We are your voice in Washington, Albany, and beyond!***

**OUR MISSION:** Promote, Advocate, Strengthen and Expand the Defense and Federal assets that support the economies of the five-county CNY region, including:

- **Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI),**
- **Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS),**
- **Eastern Area Defense Sector (EADS),**
- **FAA-Designated New York Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Test Site.**

**The Alliance is the only 501(c)6 organization dedicated to protecting AFRL/RI, DFAS, EADS and the NY UAS Test Site.** Our assets are vulnerable to cuts and closure. The Alliance is fighting every day to defend and grow them, working directly with federal, state and local representatives to address issues head on before the next BRAC (likely 2021) or DoD realignment.



## **1. Defense Budget Update**

According to The Atlantic Strategies Group's most recent report to the Alliance, the FY20 Department of Defense budget proposed by President Trump is \$700B, somewhat less than the estimated \$773B budget Secretary of Defense Mattis has been working. Both budgets will be presented to Congress in February 2019, and should the lower figure pass, the \$33B difference will remain as unfunded requirements. While the President's budget is lower than anticipated, it is considerably better than the \$596B provided under the Budget Control Act and should provide opportunities for our regional defense assets. Cuts are likely to Science and Technology budgets, but given the threat of cyber activities in Russia and China, the reductions should be modest.

## **2. Future BRAC Round Increasingly Likely**

In spite of more comfortable budget projections, a BRAC round is becoming increasingly likely in the relatively near-term future. Although President Trump has taken a BRAC round off the table for now, pressure is growing for Congress to consider one soon.

Several key indicators point to increasing likelihood of a round of realignments and closures. First, the rising Defense budget does not translate into significant growth in force structure, in spite of the Services' requests for increased end strength. This reality, combined with the growth in the national deficit and debt, will almost certainly create a strong push to identify and reduce unnecessary defense expenditures, especially in light of the incoming Democratic majority in the House of Representatives. Finally, Congress and a recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report have called for a more precise estimate of the military's unused capacity. Defense officials have responded that Congress must authorize a new BRAC round in order to make that possible. While lawmakers will be hesitant to authorize a BRAC round without more data, this conflict makes a new round more likely. The Alliance will continue to monitor the situation and advise members with new information as it becomes available.

## **3. Air Force Projected to Grow Significantly**

Of particular interest to Alliance members, a report issued by the Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson in September lays out a bold plan for substantial growth and change. The report anticipates that the Air Force will grow significantly over the next five years, increasing the number of active duty, Guard and Reserve airmen and civilians by 15,000, to an estimated 685,000 total by the end of FY2023. The plan will add 74 squadrons over the next decade, requiring an additional 40,000 airmen and civilians by 2030. Secretary Wilson supported the plan with an assessment that the current Air Force is too small for the missions demanded of it, and that those demands are unlikely to diminish in the next decade.

Command, control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C2ISR) could grow from the current 40 squadrons to 62 squadrons between 2025 and 2030, with potential positive impact on operations for AFRL Rome.

In addition to this dynamic vision for the future of the Air Force, Secretary Wilson announced that the Air Force has aligned with the National Security Strategy (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/NSS-Final-12-18-2017-0905->

[2.pdf](#)). Sec. Wilson anticipates that not only will the Force be larger, but the way it fights will be different. Specifics of the National Security Strategy research priorities issued by the Undersecretary of Defense Research and Engineering offer some insights into possible impacts of this action on research priorities for AFRL (<https://www.acq.osd.mil/chieftechнологist/COIs.html>).

#### **4. Test Site reauthorization**

The Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act, signed into law in October, will extend the FAA-Designated UAS Test Site at Griffiss International Airport for an additional six-year term. UAS testing operations can now continue at the Griffiss Test Site until April of 2023. The FAA designation, secured in 2013 with Alliance participation, was due to expire in 2019, but the passage of the reauthorization bill will allow drone research and development to continue in Rome and at six other test sites across the country. The extension will enable the UAS Test Site at Griffiss to realize the promise of extensive New York State investment in UAS research, to validate drone technologies for a wide array of public and private sector applications, and continue the vital goal of integrating UAS safely into the National Airspace System (NAS).

The Test Site at Griffiss has worked with more than 200 businesses, universities, and government entities to advance research and accelerate economic development across the region. Progress has been excellent, and the New York site offers unique instrumentation and geography. The Test Site at Griffiss and the NUAIR Alliance offer opportunities for the UAS industry to hone compliance with "see and avoid" flight requirements necessitated by the lack of an on-board pilot, which will ultimately allow UAS to fly beyond visual line of sight.

That work, along with New York State's investment to develop a first-of-its-kind 50-mile UAS corridor between Griffiss International Airport in Rome and Syracuse, have positioned Griffiss as a leading test site for the emerging UAS industry.

#### **5. New York State Launches Effort to Lead in Quantum Science and Engineering**

On November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, the Research Foundation of the State University of New York (SUNY RF) organized a workshop on Quantum Science and Engineering, hosted by Griffiss Institute (GI). The event brought together leaders in relevant fields from an array of academic and government institutions, as well as political leaders, to lay out a strategy to move Quantum Information Science aggressively forward in New York State. Attendees included top researchers in Quantum Computing from AFRL Information Directorate (AFRL/RI), SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Stony Brook University, Binghamton University, University at Buffalo, University at Albany, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Brookhaven National Laboratory, NYSTAR, and an array of local, state, and national politicians and administrators.

Dr. Grace Wang, SUNY's Senior Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, opened the event, along with Rome Mayor Izzo, AFRL/RI Chief Scientist Dr. Paul Antonik, and GI Director Bill Wolf. The two-day workshop covered scientific, social and logistical challenges that must be overcome to bring Quantum Engineering to fruition, including developing and retaining a strong workforce. New York State's density of academic institutions, especially strong engineering programs, along with the strong capabilities at AFRL/RI and the National Labs, provide a strong foundation to make the State a leader in Quantum Science and Engineering.

The workshop fostered collaborations among Quantum researchers, and outlined a plan to move forward to create the infrastructure necessary to enable New York State to seize that opportunity.

The Alliance attended the workshop, and will strongly support this effort, including campaigning aggressively for a Center of Excellence to be located in Central New York.

## **6. CNY Defense Alliance Strategic Communications and Marketing Plan**

In September, the Alliance engaged Laura Welch to develop and implement strategic communications and marketing for the Alliance, and for the region's technical capabilities. For the past ten years, Ms. Welch served as Deputy Director of the Center for Advanced Systems and Engineering (CASE) at Syracuse University, a NYSTAR/ESD-designated Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) in Complex Information Systems. In her role there, Ms. Welch brought together faculty researchers, industry, and government to foster collaborations that leveraged the research and resources of Syracuse University to accelerate growth in New York's high-tech ecosystem.

Before joining SU, Ms. Welch ran a successful strategic consulting firm in New York City, where she specialized in leading organizations through both turnaround and rapid growth. She managed the turnaround of Infinity Info Systems, which became the leading enterprise sales software firm on the East Coast under her guidance. She consulted on the launch of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, which became an international NGO with a war chest of over \$125M during her time there, as well as implementing strategic and organizational plans for numerous other businesses and not-for-profit organizations. Prior to launching her own company, Ms. Welch was a Global Project Manager with EURO RSCG Worldwide, managing a portfolio of advertising and communications technology projects across three continents.

## **7. 36 Years Ago: Remembering George H. W. Bush '41**

Thank you Dr. Michael Hayduk for sharing the picture of our 41st President, while visiting the Rome Air Development Center's Test Chamber (now the Information Directorate of the Air Force Research Laboratory). Bush visited on December 16, 1982 when the first two Boeing AGM-86 air-launched cruise missiles arrived at Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, New York.

[Air Force Research Laboratory on LinkedIn: "Remembering the 41st President, pictured here in Rome Air Development...](#)

## **THANK YOU to our 2018 CNY Defense Alliance Members!**

The CNY Defense Alliance is the **ONLY** not-for-profit corporation in the region legally engaged in lobbying to protect and grow the region's DoD and federal assets. Your support enables us to continue that important work.

Our 2019 membership drive will be underway in January. Please get involved and take advantage of our flexible memberships! **We are your voice, your seat at the table in Washington and Albany. WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER. JOIN TODAY!**

- **PREMIER**
  - AIS
  - AmeriCU Credit Union
  - AX Enterprize
  - BAE
  - Clarkson University
  - First Source Federal Credit Union
  - FTL Information Technology
  - Griffiss Institute
  - Intelligent Automation Inc.
  - Mohawk Valley EDGE
  - Mohawk Valley Community College
  - NYSTEC
  - PAR/ Rome Research Corp
  - Quanterion
  - Raytheon BBN Technologies
  - SUNY POLY
  - Syracuse University/CASE
  - Thales USA
- **ADVOCATE**
  - Bank of New York Mellon
  - Booz Allen & Hamilton
  - CenterState CEO
- **ASSOCIATE**
  - Capraro Technologies
  - Mohawk LTD
- **COMMUNITY**
  - Black Owl
  - Dr. Don Hanson
  - JAG Technologies
  - Phoenix Contract Management
  
  - Research Foundation for State University of NY

If you have information or news that you would like to share in the newsletter, please contact me at [mary.chruscicki@cnydefensealliance.org](mailto:mary.chruscicki@cnydefensealliance.org) or 315-617-2821.

