



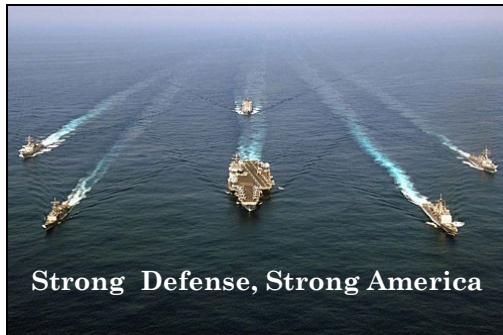
# Rigell Report \*SPECIAL EDITION\*

## Stopping Devastating Defense Budget Cuts

Dear Friend,

We have a deep obligation to pass on to future generations of Americans the blessings of liberty and freedom. That is why a strong defense and a sound national security strategy are so critical – perhaps now more than ever before.

Unfortunately, our military and national security are at risk because of massive, looming defense cuts that will affect each and every American unless Congress and the President can agree on a plan to stop them.



The cuts, known in Washington as ‘sequestration,’ would hollow our armed forces, devastate our ability to defend our country, and dismantle the greatest military force the world has ever known.

And right here in Virginia, our local economy would suffer tremendously—a recent study by George Mason University found that up to 207,000 Virginian jobs would disappear.

There is still sufficient time for us to come together and do what is right: find the common ground to counter these defense cuts with other federal

### What I am Doing to Stop the Defense Cuts

- Voted for the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act of 2012, which passed the House in May.
- Voted for the Sequestration Transparency Act, which would require the President to give Congress a detailed plan of how the cuts would affect our military. This bill passed the House in July.
- Asked the President to call Congress into a Joint Session to address these cuts, and asked House leadership to keep us in session unless and until the budget cuts are addressed.
- Introduced an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act that will stop sequestration for the coming fiscal year if Congress passes a reconciliation bill or other legislation that offsets the cuts over five years. This amendment passed the House earlier this summer.
- Fully support the proposal put forth by the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Rep. Buck McKeon, to pay for one year of cuts.
- See the back of this newsletter for ways we are spreading the news about these budget cuts.

savings. We can, and we must, do the hard work necessary to stop these cuts from hurting our country. Mindful that I work for you, I remain

Yours in Freedom,

# What the Defense Cuts Mean for America

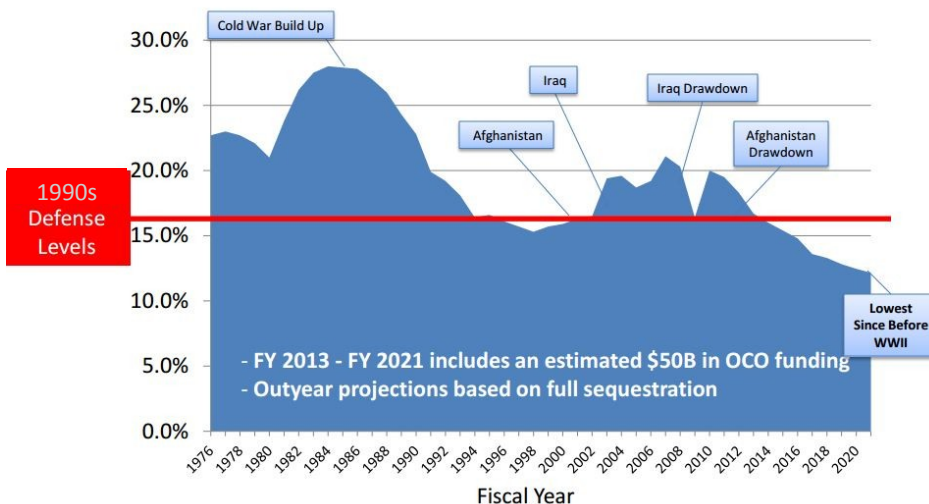
## A “Hollow Force” and a Weakened Industrial Base:

- A Naval Fleet of 230 ships, the smallest level since 1915
- The **smallest ground force** since 1940
- Smallest tactical fighter force in Air Force history
- 100,000 soldiers, sailors, Marines, and airmen separated from service
- Loss of more than 1 million private sector jobs
- Loss of more than 350,000 active-duty and DOD civilian jobs

-Source: House Armed Services Committee

## A Defense Budget Unable to Address Today’s Threats:

**Defense Department Funding as a Percentage of Total Budget Authority  
FY1976 – FY2021**



-Source: House Armed Services Committee

### What They’re Saying

*Defense Secretary Leon Panetta: “We’d be shooting ourselves in the head.” 9/22/11*

*Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General Martin Dempsey: “... I am prepared to say that sequestration would pose unacceptable risk...” 2/14/12*

# What the Defense Cuts Mean for Virginia

One third of the (economic) impacts will occur in Virginia, California, and Texas.

*-The U.S. Economic Impact of Approved and Projected DOD Spending Reductions on Equipment in 2013, George Mason University*

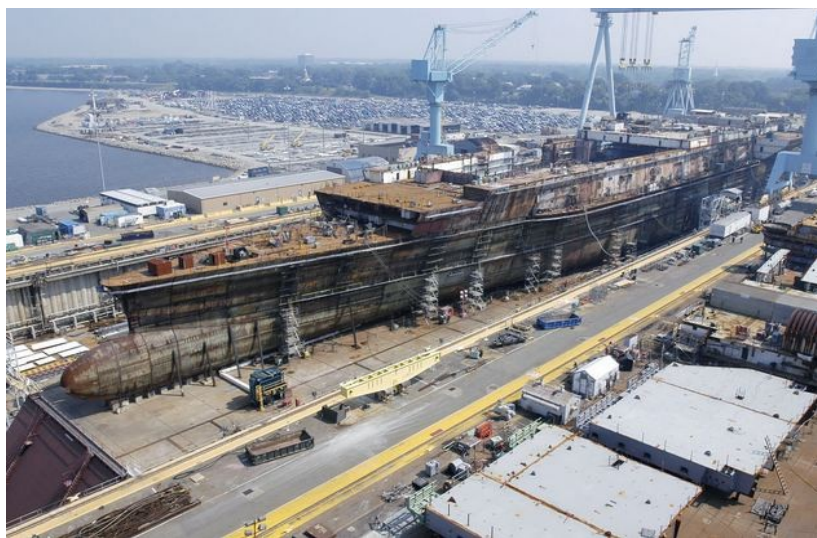
## What They're Saying

*Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert: "[S]ome of the actions we would need to take under sequestration could have a severe and irreversible impact on the Navy's future...If we end programs abruptly and some of these [shipbuilding] companies shut down, [we] will be hard pressed to reconstitute them. And each ship we don't build impacts the fleet for 20-50 years." 2/16/12*

## Virginia Stands to Lose:

- **207,000** total jobs
- **Nearly \$21 billion** in gross state product

*-George Mason University study*



*"Everyone's scared of sequestration. But the US Navy and its shipbuilders are particularly upset by the prospect." - AOL Defense, 4/20/12*





# Public Awareness: The Key to Stopping Harmful Automatic Defense Cuts

“The president must address—directly and decisively—the massive, violent reduction in defense spending that is headed our way,” said Rep. Scott Rigell (R., Va.). – Wall Street Journal, 7/13/12

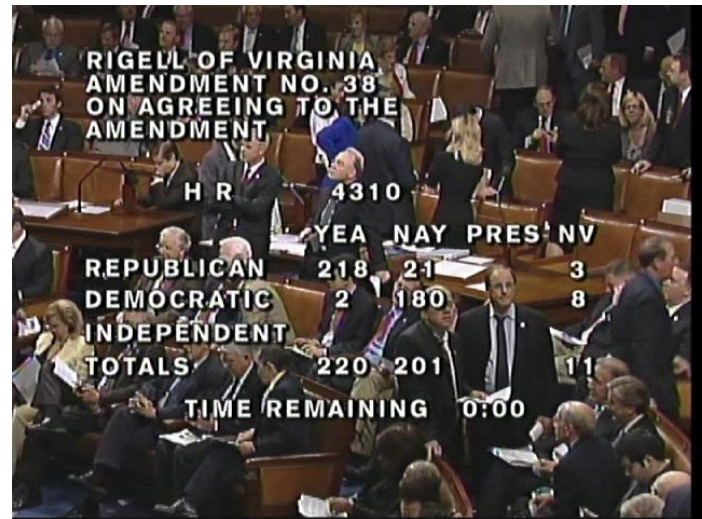


“There is a clear consensus that the budget cuts that are looming, that are already being reflected in some actions being taken by local businesses, will hurt our country,” Rigell said. – Daily Press, 7/12/12

“The Secretary of Defense has said these defense cuts are dangerous and would do serious harm to our troops

and to our ability to defend this great country.” – Congressman Rigell on Fox News Channel, 7/15/12

“The House passed (Rigell’s amendment) last month to overhaul the automatic spending cuts that would slice \$600 billion out of national security programs, and Republicans included language in a defense policy bill to ensure that the issue remains in play during conference negotiations with the Senate.” – Politico, 6/6/12



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