

RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties
From: American Accountability Foundation
Date: December 15, 2023
Re: General Kenneth Wilsbach Promotion concerns

The American Accountability Foundation performed a preliminary review of General Kenneth Wilsbach. There are significant concerns with his leadership.

Our concerns fall under two categories:

- **Woke management** in his current position.
- A pattern of **questionable judgement** in military matters.

Taken together, they raise major questions about the propriety of promoting General Wilsbach.

Woke Management

General Wilsbach currently commands¹ the U.S. Air Force's Pacific Air Forces. The "news" section² of Pacific Air Force's website³ documents **over 30 examples** of woke policy announcements since July 2020 (when Wilsbach assumed command).

The announcements can be categorized into three buckets: aggressive COVID advocacy, LGBT activism, and Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI). As the research below shows, a hallmark of his command has been pushing the airmen and facilities under his command onto the front lines of leftist policymaking.

LGBT ACTIVISM

Evidenced by the numerous LGBTQ activities at facilities under his command, Wilsbach sent a clear message that radical LGBTQ policies should be promoted throughout his command.

- [Fitting a mold not designed for me > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)⁴

¹ [KENNETH S. WILSBACH > Air Force > Biography Display \(af.mil\)](#)

² [News \(af.mil\)](#)

³ [Pacific Air Forces > Home \(af.mil\)](#)

⁴ [Fitting a mold not designed for me > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)



- In an article published to the Pacific Air Forces website, a Senior Airmen wrote that gay “twinks” or “bears” may feel pressured to meet certain physical characteristics:

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- After intense 60-minute gym workouts, I typically return to my dorm room to judge myself. Grabbing at what little fat lingers on my stomach, overanalyzing if I'll ever look good enough. The thought of being physically vulnerable quickly forces me to put a shirt on.

Have you ever looked in the mirror and thought to yourself, Wow! I look great! for some people that day never comes, especially in the LGBT community.

The mixture of growing up overweight and in the closet into my 20's, I find myself falling into the category of someone who struggles with body dysmorphia. Often times opting to keep my shirt on at the pool even though I looked similar to most people there.

In my experience, the gay community hyperfocuses on body types casting labels to categorize the shapes and sizes. Whether you are skinny, a twink, hairy, stocky or a bear, the pressure to fit into a certain mold can cause us to feel inadequate.

Being judged by first glances leads someone to care more about the outer appearance rather than their own character. Striving for something unattainable we forget to love ourselves in the process. But then why should going to the gym everyday be an issue when we are taught to be 'fit to fight? '

- [Monkeypox declared public health emergency: What Airmen and Guardians need to know > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)⁵

An article published to the Pacific Air Forces website in July 2022 shared guidance on which Airmen should receive Monkeypox vaccinations:

- “The current **guidance** on who can get vaccinated prioritizes those who are a known contact identified through public health contact tracing, as well as those who have had sexual contact in the last 14 days with an individual who was infected or had multiple sexual partners in the past 14 days in an area with known monkeypox cases.”

- [Pride Month discussion panel held at Hickam > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)⁶

- An article posted to the Pacific Air Forces website shared photos of “service members shar[ing] their life experiences during a ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ discussion panel at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam” and described it as a “Pride Month discussion panel.”

- [Finding pride through service > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)⁷

⁵ [Monkeypox declared public health emergency: What Airmen and Guardians need to know > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

⁶ [Pride Month discussion panel held at Hickam > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

⁷ [Finding pride through service > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)



- An article posted to the Pacific Air Forces website shared the experiences of a lesbian captain that now “serves as a symbol of diversity and inclusion to her fellow airmen” following the repeal of “Don’t ask, don’t tell” policy.
- [\(1\) Be proud of who you are! Be proud of... - U.S. Pacific Air Forces | Facebook](#)⁸
 - The Pacific Air Forces Facebook page posted a “#CELEBRATEPRIDE” image to its page in June 2021:



- [Drag show ban complicates Pride celebrations at US bases in Japan | Stars and Stripes](#)⁹

⁸ [\(1\) Be proud of who you are! Be proud of... - U.S. Pacific Air Forces | Facebook](#)

⁹ [Drag show ban complicates Pride celebrations at US bases in Japan | Stars and Stripes](#)



- Prior to the Biden Administration's ban on drag shows on US Military Bases, bases that fall under the Pacific Air Forces had scheduled and previously hosted drag shows.



- [I am more > Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson > News \(jb.mil\)](#)¹⁰
An article posted to the website of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, which falls under the Pacific Air Forces, featured commentary from a gay airman that described his mother being worried about him “being around unsavory characters from more intolerant areas of the country”:
 - “My mother saw the stigma surrounding gay men during the AIDS epidemic, the military-brand McCarthyism that was “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” and the 1999 media frenzy around the death of Barry Wittchell, a Soldier bludgeoned to death in his sleep by a fellow Soldier on the suspicion he was gay. These only reaffirmed her belief that society had it out for homosexuals.

At least she had the comfort of knowing we lived in the suburbs of Los Angeles County in Southern California, one of the most pro-LGBTQ+ areas in America. It’s hard to worry about your gay son not being accepted when every June, the streets of LA are practically littered with rainbow flags and other Pride Month iconography.

While my mother was **worried about me being around unsavory characters from more intolerant areas of the country**, I was excited to make a fresh new start and see where life in the armed services would take me.

Before I left, she pleaded with me not to disclose my sexuality out of fear I’d be harassed, or worse, end up like Barry Wittchell.

¹⁰ [I am more > Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson > News \(jb.mil\)](#)



- [Experience a drag queen... - Yokota Force Support Squadron | Facebook](#)¹¹



- Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson used base social media to promote pride month.¹²
- Kadena Air Force base hosted on base pride event¹³.
- [Wolf Pack Celebrates Pride Month > Kunsan Air Base > Commentaries \(af.mil\)](#)¹⁴
 - The Kunsan Air Base, which falls under the Pacific Air Forces, published photos of the "Wolf Pack" 8th Fighter Wing celebrating "Pride Month" in June 2022.
- [Misawa Air Base Proud of Pride > Misawa Air Base > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)¹⁵
 - Misawa Air Base, which falls under the Pacific Air Forces, hosted a "Pride Parade" in June 2021.

¹¹ [Experience a drag queen... - Yokota Force Support Squadron | Facebook](#)

¹² <https://fb.watch/oWX2HIPbm1/>

¹³ [First Army > People > Resources > New to First Army](#)

¹⁴ [Wolf Pack Celebrates Pride Month > Kunsan Air Base > Commentaries \(af.mil\)](#)

¹⁵ [Misawa Air Base Proud of Pride > Misawa Air Base > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)



- [ROK service members celebrate Pride Month > Osan Air Base > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)¹⁶
 - Osan Air Base, which falls under the Pacific Air Forces, posted an article on their website in June 2022 quoting Tech. Sgt. Tiffany Simms describing her role in the Air Force:
 - “Simms views her roles of being black, in the LGBTQ community and a woman, as three platforms to advocate for progress and to represent each of her communities as a proud ambassador. “As a proud member of the three minority communities, I challenge everyone to continue to fight to build a future we can all be proud to live in, said Simms. “
- Eielson AFB hosted a Pride 5k.¹⁷

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION (DEI)

- [Commentary: Black Pride? > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)¹⁸
 - **MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan** -- Thinking back to my childhood, there was never a time I can recall being proud of my dark skin. It felt more like an undeserved rap sheet than an indication of racial distinction. Is that a strange thing to say? It's my truth. I wasn't taught, nor did I grow up seeing, anything that inspired pride in being Black....

I'm not sure I can overstate the importance and impact of events like Misawa's Black History Month Museum. At this time, I'm the vice president of the African American Heritage Association, so I participated in all phases of the event from planning to final teardown. While I hoped for a successful event, I didn't believe it would be as wonderful as it turned out. During a time of pandemic and social distancing, the participation and engagement from the community far exceeded my expectations.

Walking around the venue I had the opportunity to glimpse at some of the numerous impacts African Americans have had on various occupations. Even more special was witnessing the chosen subjects and facts on the children's projects. It was reassuring to see that today's youth seem less limited in their knowledge of the influences from the Black community than I was just over a decade ago. Admittedly, I learned more than I anticipated from the children's work.
- [Leading with values and diversity > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)¹⁹
 - **JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR HICKAM, Hawaii** -- As one of the first women of East Indian descent to commission in the Air Force, Lt. Col. Harshmir Gill, 713th Combat Operations Squadron Director of Operations (A3), knows what it means to be different and stand out.

¹⁶ [ROK service members celebrate Pride Month > Osan Air Base > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

¹⁷ [Pride Run 5K | Facebook](#)

¹⁸ [Commentary: Black Pride? > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

¹⁹ [Leading with values and diversity > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)



- [Osan celebrates Hispanic American Heritage Month > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)²⁰
- [Women's Initiative Team awarded > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)
 - The primary focus of the WIT is the breaking of barriers that affect women's abilities to serve in the Air Force. Their recent changes include a policy change to AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force. The new hair standards have single-handedly changed the way women can wear their hair while in uniform.

"So these braids, these ponytails, that's what the WIT did," said Flemming. "There was a group called Warrior Braids, and they recognized that there were issues for women having their hair in a bun all day, like hair-loss and migraines being caused. It's also not inclusive of all cultures and hair types."

The WIT also identified policies preventing female Airmen from becoming pilots without a special waiver. WIT encouraged policy changes to develop the pilot program to more women and give more people a chance to serve their country.
- [Diversity, inclusion chief visits Team Kadena > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)²¹
 - The Pacific Air Forces website posted photos of the Pacific Air Forces' chief of diversity and inclusion officer visiting the Kadena Air Base in 2022.
- [Eielson AFB's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility program > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)²²
 - "Equity- Champion, authentically promote, and maintain an equitable environment within DoD that fosters fair, just, and equal opportunities for all, to include underserved populations within DoD and in the surrounding communities."
 - "Airmen can look forward to the DEIA program offering a series of training programs, workshops, and briefings designed to inform and inspire ways to remove unnecessary barriers to mission accomplishment and create more inclusive workplace cultures."
- [One year of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility: Building a foundation for trust > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)²³

²⁰ [Osan celebrates Hispanic American Heritage Month > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

²¹ [Diversity, inclusion chief visits Team Kadena > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

²² [Eielson AFB's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility program > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)

²³ [One year of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility: Building a foundation for trust > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)



- Cruz went on to explain diversity as not just about race, gender, or orientation, but also about different lived-experiences, different financial statuses, location one was raised in and just about everything in between affecting a person's perspective and understanding of the world around them.

Through his analysis of the Diversity and Inclusion programs across PACAF, Cruz found that programs were run by volunteers, some who weren't necessarily equipped to handle ²⁴the intricate conversations that come with building the foundation of a professional culture based on leveraging the strength of diversity.

"At the end of the day, the message I delivered to my boss was 'We can't continue to operate the DEIA program like this,'" said Cruz. "If we really want to create something that's going to be meaningful, sustainable and enduring, we need to start all over and build a solid foundation with conceptual clarity."

Since delivering his belief in rebuilding the program, Cruz has worked to get full-time DEIA positions at each location to keep the program aligned with Air Force intent, direction, and training standards.

"We now have a full time DEIA person out at each of the installations," said Cruz. "We have an onboarding plan for them, and We're investing in their training. We are sending them to the right classes so that they can bring back some tools that are going to be very productive for the wings."

- [Eielson continues to build on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility program > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)²⁵

- "Diversity is everything that makes us look at things from a different perspective and gives us a different lens," Cruz said. "Inclusion is the environment we create that fosters a culture where every Airman feels like their voice matters."

Cruz also spoke on DEIA's business case, and prompted dialogue between himself and the audience. Participants shared what they thought DEIA could deliver, which included cohesiveness, innovation, connectedness, and a place of belonging. Airmen also shared that they believed solutions to complex problems could flow quickly and freely in an inclusive environment.

Cruz has delivered Conceptual Clarity briefs at every PACAF installation because they provide a better understanding of what the DEIA program is all about. They also create a clear and strong foundation to build upon. Cruz encouraged Eielson's full-time DEIA program manager, Master Sgt. Marlon Woodson, to continue delivering Conceptual Clarity briefs at Eielson to continue solidifying the program's foundation.

"Until we have a shared understanding of what diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility is, we can't continue to build upon it," said Cruz. "We need to increase the awareness of it which is critical to making sure that we're maximizing and making use of all the capabilities we have in our Air Force."

²⁴ [Celebrating National Women's History Month in the 3rd Wing > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

²⁵ [Eielson continues to build on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility program > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)



- [Team Hickam Celebrates Juneteenth > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)²⁶
- [Yokota Juneteenth Gala celebrates freedom > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)²⁷
- [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility training held on Hickam > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)²⁸
 - The Pacific Air Forces posted photos to their website of a “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility training held on Hickam” in June 2023. The training was held by Anthony Cruz Munoz, who is the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility Chief for the Pacific Air Forces.
 - One of the slides Cruz Munoz presented included discussion of a “independent racial disparity review” and “George Floyd.”
- [PACAF Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility Program coordinators attend conference at JBPHH > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)²⁹
- [Pacific Air Forces welcomes new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility chief > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)³⁰
 - JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii -- Pacific Air Forces created a new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility Chief position that will report directly to the Deputy Commander of PACAF to help the command explore and engage opportunities to improve organizational culture and trust.

In his role as the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility Chief, Anthony Cruz Munoz, will take on the responsibility of working with PACAF command teams and senior leaders throughout the area of responsibility to identify opportunities to improve readiness, lethality, and speed of decisions by removing unnecessary barriers and creating a more inclusive culture.

“PACAF has made diversity a command priority and is committed to embracing, promoting, and unleashing the potential of diversity and inclusion,” Cruz said. “PACAF understands diversity and inclusion are imperative to sustaining our place as the greatest Air Force in the world and key in our competition against near-peer adversaries. By creating this position, PACAF has taken action to back up its words, and this should send a positive message to the entire command.”

Cruz’s focus will be in helping the command to create a climate that increases connectedness to mission accomplishment, purpose, and trust in leadership and the Air Force as an institution.

²⁶ [Team Hickam Celebrates Juneteenth > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

²⁷ [Yokota Juneteenth Gala celebrates freedom > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

²⁸ [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility training held on Hickam > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

²⁹ [PACAF Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility Program coordinators attend conference at JBPHH > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)

³⁰ [Pacific Air Forces welcomes new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility chief > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)



"Inclusive climates significantly increase trust, which is foundational to healthy relations, influence, and directly impacts the speed of decisions and mission execution," Cruz said. "Speed is key to remaining dominant in today's competitive environment, and therefore I am excited to play my role to help the team. I have a strong passion for helping teams create environments where each Airman is free to be the best version of themselves and know they are making significant contributions to the greater purpose."

There can be many challenges in creating a new role within an already established command however, Cruz believes some of the challenges will be "necessary and purposeful" in order to move forward in making PACAF the best it can be.

"Focusing on the fact that DE&I is a commander's priority and everyone's responsibility, I will work to find synergy of efforts by increasing the sharing of information and resources across all PACAF installations," Cruz said. "I will deliberately focus on consistently using the Air Force definitions provided in [Air Force Instruction] 36-7001 for diversity and inclusion. With a shared understanding of these definitions, I will then focus on having tough conversations, exposing opportunities for growth as a team."...

COVID HYSTERIA

- [Yokota Medical Group counters COVID cases with augmentee program > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)³¹
 - The 374th Airlift Wing, under the Pacific Air Forces, was still performing contact tracing in December 2020, despite it having been a widely acknowledged failure³² for half a year.
- [Pacific Air Forces Commander receives COVID-19 vaccine > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)³³
 - Wilsbach got publicly vaccinated, creating a command environment where airmen would be reluctant to not get the COVID vaccination.³⁴



³¹ [Yokota Medical Group counters COVID cases with augmentee program > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

³² [Contact Tracing Is Failing in Many States. Here's Why. - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)

³³ [Pacific Air Forces Commander receives COVID-19 vaccine > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

³⁴ [Yesterday, Gen. Ken Wilsbach, #PACAF... - U.S. Pacific Air Forces | Facebook](#)



- [On the frontlines of a pandemic > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)³⁵
 - A member of the 354th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron, under the Pacific Air Forces said: “our job was to make sure everyone knew and followed the guidance given by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] in order to keep us safe.”
- [Myths and facts about the vax — debunking common COVID-19 vaccine myths > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)³⁶
 - 1. Problematic to promote vaccine using base resources.
 - 2. Claims about “safety and effectiveness” of vaccine haven’t aged well.
- [PACAF continues to practice COVID Mitigation procedures > Pacific Air Forces -> Article Display](#)³⁷
 - In January 2022, long after most restrictions had been dropped around the country, the Pacific Air Forces continued to engage in so-called “COVID mitigation procedures.”

Questionable Military Judgement

General Wilsbach has made a number of statements that throw into doubt his basic understanding of several well-known global hot spots.

AFGHAN AIR FORCE

From 2013 to 2014, General Wilsbach was the Commander³⁸ of the 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force in Afghanistan. In that role, he oversaw³⁹ American efforts to train the Afghan Air Force. During this time, Wilsbach made several statements that call into question his military judgement.

³⁵ [On the frontlines of a pandemic > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

³⁶ [Myths and facts about the vax — debunking common COVID-19 vaccine myths > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display \(af.mil\)](#)

³⁷ [PACAF continues to practice COVID Mitigation procedures > Pacific Air Forces > Article Display](#)

³⁸ [KENNETH S. WILSBACH > Air Force > Biography Display \(af.mil\)](#)

³⁹ [Afghanistan in Retrograde | Air & Space Forces Magazine \(airandspaceforces.com\)](#)



In June 2013, Wilsbach claimed⁴⁰ the Afghan Air Force was “headed in the right direction”:

"This year their survival rate is going up because they're able to respond quicker," U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, the top coalition air officer in Afghanistan, said in a telephone interview.

...

"They don't have a lot of capability thus far but they're working in the right direction," Wilsbach said.

Wilsbach said the Afghan military is also expanding plans for ground evacuation when aircraft cannot respond to a request for an evacuation.

To compensate for a lack of attack aircraft Afghan troops are being encouraged to use artillery and mortars if aircraft are not available.

The objective is to create an air force that is built to respond to the threats Afghanistan's military faces and not an organization built in the image of the U.S. military, Wilsbach said.

In September 2013, Wilsbach claimed⁴¹ the Afghan Air Force would be self-sufficient by 2017:

Maj. Gen. Kenneth S. Wilsbach, commander of the 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Afghanistan, said roughly 500 coalition air advisors will remain in theater through 2017, at which point the Afghan Air Force is expected to have at least a foundational capability and, in some cases, will be up to full operational capability.

In November 2013, Wilsbach claimed⁴² he was “encouraged” by the Afghan Air Force’s Road to independence:

WASHINGTON — Afghanistan's young air force has nearly tripled the number of casualty evacuation missions it has flown this year, coalition officials say, a critical step in efforts to get the country's security forces to operate independently.

The ability to remove injured soldiers from the battlefield without U.S. assistance is a key test for the country's small air forces and a measure of its independence. Until recently, it has relied heavily on the U.S. military to evacuate casualties from the battlefield.

"We're encouraged with how they're doing," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach, the top coalition air officer in Afghanistan.

...

Afghanistan still relies on U.S. assistance. About half the casualty evacuation missions are conducted by coalition forces, Wilsbach said.

⁴⁰ [Afghan medical evacuation capabilities improving \(usatoday.com\)](http://usatoday.com)

⁴¹ [Afghanistan in Retrograde | Air & Space Forces Magazine \(airandspaceforces.com\)](http://airandspaceforces.com)

⁴² [Afghanistan's air force on road to independence \(usatoday.com\)](http://usatoday.com)



That may be changing. "Last week they actually did more than we did," Wilsbach said in a telephone interview from Afghanistan.

...

Wilsbach said the air force have largely mastered existing aircraft, such as the Mi-17, the Mi-35 Hind attack helicopter and the C-208, a small propeller aircraft.

While a dissertation of the failures⁴³ of the U.S. military to train Afghans⁴⁴ is beyond the scope of this review, General Kenneth Wilsbach was likely a key cog in those failures.

UKRAINE MISJUDGMENT

In an April 2023 interview, General Wilsbach claimed⁴³ the Russian military was "doing poorly" in Ukraine. This comment came shortly after the so-called "discord leak" revealed⁴⁴ that the U.S. government had been systemically overselling its position in Ukraine.

Whether General Wilsbach's comment was a misjudgment, or a misrepresentation, neither is good.

"CLIMATE CHANGE" RESPONSIBLE FOR RUSSIAN MILITARY ACTIVITY

In 2020 remarks, Wilsbach claimed⁴⁵ climate change was driving Russian policy in the Arctic:

Because of the situation in the world today, a lot has to do with climate change and advanced technology, but there's more activity in the Arctic, and there are some countries that tend to impose their will inside the Arctic, and we're concerned about that from a national security standpoint, and especially we want to make sure that all of the Indo-Pacific is free and open, to include the Arctic.

...

. It stands to reason that Russia would have an interest in the Arctic because a good portion of their northern border is in the Arctic, and so that would make sense that they would be interested in the Arctic. I caution people to look at what Russia has been doing in the Arctic, and they've been opening up a number of bases that have been closed and they've been militarizing their northern flanks, and so I would ask people to keep a close eye on Russia.

⁴³ [FDD PODCAST | Deterring Aggression in the Pacific \(Brad Bowman w/ Gen. Kenneth Wilsbach\) - YouTube](#)

⁴⁴ [Discord member details how documents leaked from closed chat group - The Washington Post](#)

⁴⁵ [August2020-BeringStraitsRoundtable.pdf \(arcticdomainawarenesscenter.org\)](#)



Why are they doing that? The Arctic has been a peaceful place. We want to keep it that way. We want it to be open and peaceful and so I say watch Russia.

