

Policy Statement



IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST: TIME TO RESCUE OUR ARMED FORCES

A defence policy for
an independent Britain

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1. Introduction

Defence of the Realm is normally considered to be the pre-eminent duty of government. With this policy statement the UK Independence Party alone holds firm to that principle. Over the years the British armed services have been starved of money by successive Conservative and Labour Governments who chose to believe that we now live in a post-conflict world. Events of recent years have shown this idea to be wrong, and the actions of these governments to be nothing less than culpably complacent.

So complacent were they that they have broken the covenant between the nation and those who serve it. So disreputable as to have led to dirty homes for soldiers, closed military hospitals, insufficient equipment, unjust persecutions of military personnel, and ever longer and recurrent tours of duty which damage the fabric of family life, always with consistent financial and manpower overstretch.

Our forces in Afghanistan have not been given clearly defined achievable aims. The army is undermanned for the tasks it has, and is generally poorly equipped for the roles it is expected to fulfill. The Navy has been badly run down. There is a desperate shortage of frigates and coastal forces and major bases such as Plymouth will be downgraded as most of their ships and all of their submarines are sent to either Portsmouth or Faslane. The Air Force is under strength in personnel, and has a severe shortage of tankers, transports and helicopters.

The Defence budget has been cut by too much and can no longer sustain the commitments we have taken on or fund necessary new capital equipment programmes. Our involvement in the European Union is undermining our cornerstone alliances with NATO and the USA, breaking Commonwealth bonds, as well as compromising our defence procurement strategy.

Despite all this, the other main parties have no understanding of the threats – both current and future – that face our nation, how much money we must commit to counter those threats.

When thinking about the national interest and the position of our services in defending them, it always does well to remember Aristotle's dictum: „We make war that we may live in peace.“

This policy statement addresses these serious concerns, tackles the disgraceful betrayal of our great armed forces, and charts a bold and imaginative alternate direction.

2. The Problem

An insult to The Few: Labour Government defence cuts could ground the Battle of Britain flight for good

(Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1243309/Defence-cuts-ground-Battle-Britain-flight.html>)

Labour's Defence cuts 'to leave new aircraft carriers without any planes'

(Source: <http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23710801-defence-cuts-to-leave-aircraft-carriers-without-any-planes.do>)

Britain's armed forces face savage cuts and could shrink by up to a fifth because of a lack of money thanks to Labour Government's defence cuts.

(Source:

http://www.channel4.com/news/articles/politics/domestic_politics/armed+forces+face+brutal+defence+cuts/3499437)

No Change if Cameron Elected: Conservatives plan £30 billion defence cuts if they come to Office. (Source:

http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/campaigns/our_boys/2639678/Tories-plan-30bn-defence-cuts.html)

Billion pound ship goes to sea without any air defence missiles

(Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1233054/HMS-Dauntless-How-Britains-new-1bn-super-ship-isnt-working-order.html>)

A furious mother of hero killed by Afghan policemen says her son had to live like a peasant in UK Guards barracks

(Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1226022/My-son-live-like-peasant-Guards-barracks-says-furious-mother-hero-killed-Afghan-policeman.html>)

Squaddies are going hungry because the Government's controversial „Pay As You Dine“ system at all home bases means if servicemen and women are broke, they have to do their jobs without any food. (Source: <http://www.newsoftheworld.co.uk/news/575684/Scandal-as-squaddies-are-forced-to-pay-for-food-HUNGRY-HEROES.html>)

Defence cuts will mean the RAF will lose 10,000 personnel and up to five major bases

(Source: <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6917297.ece>)

On Monday 8th of February, the UK death-toll in Afghanistan came level with Falklands War but no end of the conflict is in sight. As of the 1st of March 2010, the total of those killed in action is 234 with 267 as the full total which also includes those who have died as a result of an accident or disease.

(Source: [http://www.inthenews.co.uk/comment/news/defence/explosion-takes-uk-death-toll-in-afghanistan-level-with-falklands-\\$1358790.htm](http://www.inthenews.co.uk/comment/news/defence/explosion-takes-uk-death-toll-in-afghanistan-level-with-falklands-$1358790.htm))

3. Executive Summary

UKIP aims:

To defend our national interests, maintain the NATO alliance, support our traditional partners. We want to disentangle our forces from the EU and moves towards EU armed forces. UKIP will keep our independence by retaining – always – ultimate command and control over our national forces.

To stop trying to buy defence on the cheap UKIP will spend an extra 1% GDP per year on defence – an increase of 40% on current budgets (a £14.76 billion increase). UKIP believes in establishing a defence budget which will properly sustain Britain's defence commitments. To keep defence costs down by smarter defence procurement, and with more involvement of British industry wherever possible.

To increase the Army to at least 125,000 personnel (trained requirement) in order to enable it to cope with its existing deployment and roles. To double the Territorial Army in size from 37,000 to 75,000 soldiers.

To restore the Navy to its 2001 strength, with 3 new aircraft carriers (one extra), 4 assault ships, 30 destroyers and frigates, 12 Fleet Submarines, 25 coastal vessels and 50 Merlin helicopters, with around 7,000 extra personnel to 42,000 (2003–41,550). UKIP would guarantee the futures of naval ports Plymouth and Portsmouth and base ships permanently in Rosyth and so return it to a proper naval port status.

To increase the Air Force's capabilities by enlarging the tanker fleet, modernising the transport fleet, buying more helicopters and 50 extra JSF aircraft, and increasing RAF personnel to 50,000.

To restore many traditional regiments, such as the Black Watch and Staffords, subsumed as battalions of EU-inspired „super-regional“ regiments such as the Royal Welsh, Royal Mercian and Royal Regiment of Scotland, in order to serve in EU battlegroups

To renew the Covenant between the Country and those who are asked to risk their lives on its behalf: through better pay, generous compensation for injury, restoration of Crown immunity, private medical and dental care, reinstatement of military hospitals, decent accommodation, an offence of treason for those UK citizens who seriously attack serving personnel, and above all, respect and support. We will also introduce a National Service Medal to be awarded to all servicemen and women to thank those who have seen combat, and those who have not, in their service of their country.

To reappraise our operations in Afghanistan to a single clear and achievable mission or seek to negotiate a withdrawal with our NATO partners.

To maintain Britain's independent nuclear deterrent with existing Trident submarines, and then replace them with four British-built US missile armed submarines.

To retain and increase Army and Territorial Army personnel through better pay, free medical and dental care for them and their families, retention „warrants“, school recruitment and other incentives.

To introduce a National Defence Medal to recognise „Forgotten Heroes“.

4. The Key Roles of the British Armed Forces

4.1 The primary requirement of the British armed forces is the Defence of the Realm from direct attack by land, air or sea, from other states and/or from international terrorism. They are also required to become an aid to the civil power in emergencies and ensure the defence of our 13 remaining overseas territories, principally the Falklands and Gibraltar. The British armed forces are also essential to the UK honouring our obligations under international treaties, primarily NATO, where we have formal commitments to come to the aid of treaty partners. Last but not least, the armed forces have a key role in the defence of our fisheries, shipping, overseas trade including energy supplies, and our embassies and official representatives.

4.2 The British armed forces may also be deployed as a United Nations peacekeeping force or in support of our Commonwealth partners.

5. Threats to our National Interest

The Middle East and Afghanistan

5.1 Our military presence in Afghanistan is part of a NATO mission, rightly supported by the UK in order to assist reconstruction there. However it has turned into a long running battle. The history of such wars is unpromising – even the Soviet Union was defeated in Afghanistan. There is no attainable military goal that can be accomplished by the size of forces NATO is willing to contribute. We should re-appraise our operations there, ensure the goals are achievable, that a single achievable mission is agreed (rather than current multi missions) and review our commitment.

5.2 The Middle East as a whole is an area in constant turmoil that spawns international terrorism, threatens the West's energy supplies, and may shortly pose a nuclear threat as well, owing to Iran's nuclear ambitions. Apart from diplomacy, the UK has no independent ability for military action in the area. Despite the unsustainability of our present military efforts in Afghanistan, we must be ready to consider carefully any proposed international missions if we judge that they are in our national interest. Accordingly, UKIP believes we should maintain the ability to operate in the Middle East at an appropriate scale.

International Terrorism

5.3 International terrorism will normally be the responsibility of the security services and the police. The armed forces may be required if a threat of this kind is expected by sea or air, or if the scale of an event by land is too large for the police to contain. It will be the task of the forces to maintain effective links and procedures with the security services so that they can act in their support. Among other things, this will require the improvement

of our present woefully inadequate coastal forces. Rogue states will continue to have to be dealt with internationally. As a global trading nation, Permanent Member of the UN Security Council and one of the world's leading military powers, it will often be in our national interest to be involved. Some of these states are likely to have nuclear weapons in the future, so that it would be irresponsible to abandon our own strategic nuclear deterrent.

Russia

5.4 Russia is now more prosperous and is becoming stridently nationalist. In recent years, Russia has attacked two neighbours (Estonia via cyber-attack, and Georgia by actual attack), and has sent nuclear-capable bombers on highly provocative dummy attack runs into Western European air space. Russian armed forces are not what they were, but are still considerable and are being modernised. Defence against a Russian threat is still a NATO responsibility – UKIP policy is that British Armed Forces must be maintained at an appropriate level and effectiveness to play its part in any possible threat to the NATO Alliance.

Asia

5.5 China is rapidly increasing its economic and military power. What it will do with this is as yet unclear, but the potential is clear. There are focal points of instability in the region between North and South Korea, between China and Taiwan, issues of internal protests in Tibet, between Indonesia and Australia, and to the west of the region between India and Pakistan. It is safe to say that there will be recurring crises, some of a military nature. As a major global trading nation we cannot be indifferent, but neither do we have much capability to act at this range. We do however have historic ties to Australia and New Zealand and other Commonwealth countries in the area. UKIP policy is that UK should apply to join, as an associate or a full member, the ANZUS defence pact, the defence pact between the US, Australia and New Zealand, similar to an antipodean NATO. This involves joint exercises and consultations but has no integrated defence structure or dedicated forces. We should also examine other wider means of Commonwealth defence co-operation.

Fisheries Protection

5.6 Fisheries Protection has been lamentably ignored by successive governments. UKIP policy is that an adequate sea and air capability should be restored. This could well be combined with a more effective Coastguard that would be needed when we reclaim our own territorial waters of up to 200 miles, and using Mine Countermeasures Ships capable of dual purpose minesweeping and fishery patrols (as proposed in UKIP's Fishing Paper). UKIP opposes the EU's declared aim of a full scale Coastguard, which would be an EU Navy by the back door. In addition, UKIP would maintain strict dividing lines between the responsibilities of HM Coastguard and the Royal Navy, and resist EU-inspired moves towards a US-style militarised EU Coastguard. Given the track record of predatory, illegal trespassing by EU fishing boats in non-EU waters (e.g. Spanish boats in Canadian waters in the 1990s), an independent Britain would need a deterrent patrol force to protect Britain's fishing grounds from illegal fishing by foreign trawlers.

6. Commitments to Alliances

The NATO Alliance

6.1 The NATO Alliance which has served us so well must remain a cornerstone of UK Defence Policy. It is the only way in which a major threat to the UK can be countered, and demonstrated its ability to keep the peace in Europe during the Cold War. It was NATO, not the EU, which accomplished this. It should be remembered that Clause 4 of the NATO treaty still obliges all members to come to the aid of any member who is attacked, a powerful deterrent to any rogue state given the military prowess of the members in that alliance.

6.2 UKIP is deeply concerned at NATO moves to become a part of the EU defence project, UKIP will strongly resist NATO Europeanisation. UKIP is also gravely concerned by attempts by the EU to build a Euro Army that would duplicate NATO structures, and which are nothing more than politicised attempts to replace NATO with an EU-only force. NATO must not be "Europeanised", as its success has been in its transatlantic bonds and with the central role and contribution of the USA and Canada.

6.3 In addition, NATO has recently begun to intervene in geographic areas outside its membership and its original remit (e.g. Afghanistan). Since NATO has well tested military command, control, and interoperability procedures well in advance of any other conceivable group of countries, this can be advantageous. However we will only be involved in such operations when it is in our own national interest and when there are clearly defined, specific objectives to be attained.

The Future of the Special Relationship with the USA

6.4 UKIP will maintain our historic and important defence relationship with our American allies. Our military links with the US are vital to our defence effectiveness. We have the only forces sufficiently hi-tech to operate alongside them; so it is in the US interest to maintain our defence effort with R & D and technology we could not possibly develop. Thus our forces, although small, stay world class.

6.5 It is foreseeable that in pursuit of our common objectives of global stability and democracy that we shall often be operating with US forces. This is to be welcomed – but it is UKIP policy that we must still consider joining the US in military ventures, but only on a case by case basis and viewed against the criteria of our own national interest.

United Nations Peacekeeping

6.6 From time to time, the UK has committed forces to United Nations peacekeeping or intervention forces. As a Permanent Member of the UN Security Council with veto power, and the leading second rank military power this is likely to continue – but the UK is not a policeman of the world.

6.7 UKIP policy is that we should be involved only when it is an area of our own historic, national or economic interest, when we can make a real difference, and when there are defined and achievable objectives.

Rejection of European Union Defence Force

6.8 It is a major objective of the European Union to have its own military capability, operating to EU policies under a single EU command. EU military operations have already been carried out in Bosnia and Chad, and the EU has been involved in anti-piracy operations in Somalia, setting a worrying precedent.

6.9 The Helsinki Headline Goal, adopted in 1999 and revised in 2004, sets the following targets for the EU: a European Rapid Reaction Force of up to 60,000 for up to 60 days; a European Defence Agency; full strategic lift capability and European Airlift Centre by 2010 and the establishment of EU Battle groups.

6.10 UKIP believes Britain should have no involvement with this EU Army. If the UK commits its forces this way we would lose US classified R & D and equipment support, as we have already done thanks to the EU, such as information on the US Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) programme¹. We would lose our independence of action and our sovereignty in an EU military command structure.

Examination of Commonwealth Defence Co-operation

6.11 UKIP will examine opportunities for military co-operation, where appropriate, with Commonwealth countries, including appraising opportunities for common defence procurement and the potential for a Commonwealth defence force.

7. Authorisation, Command and Control of UK Force Deployments

7.1 The UK Government must always have the freedom of action to respond instantly when the national interest requires it. Such deployment should also be authorised by Parliament, desirably before commitment but in emergencies immediately after. In most (but not all) situations where UK forces are deployed they will be operating with forces from other nations, sometimes in command and sometimes under their command.

7.2 UKIP believes that our national independence lies in our ability at all times to retain ultimate command and control over our own armed forces, i.e. to assign, re-assign or withdraw them.

8. The UK Nuclear Deterrent

8.1 Despite all international disarmament efforts, more and more nations are acquiring nuclear weapons and associated missile technology. Currently the nuclear powers are USA, Russia, UK, France, China, India, Pakistan and Israel. UKIP does not wish to see anymore states develop nuclear weapons.

8.2 North Korea is strongly believed to have nuclear weapons, and repeatedly makes threats against its democratic neighbours such as South Korea and Japan. Given that regime's violent pedigree, one should be extremely concerned about its possession of nuclear weapons. Iran is also strongly suspected of developing its own nuclear weapons, with which it could dominate the oil-rich Middle East, and spread its own brand of revolutionary Shia Islam in the largely Sunni Muslim Middle East.

8.3 North Korea and Iran's possession of nuclear weapons could also trigger nuclear arms races in their respective geographic regions. In North East Asia, Japan has already considered developing its own nuclear weapons to counter the North Korean threat. In the Middle East, Sunni Muslim states like Saudi Arabia may develop their own nuclear weapons to counter Shia Iran.

8.4 UKIP believes there is only one defence against countries who threaten to use nuclear weapons – well tested in the Cold War – which is to possess one's own nuclear weaponry. Mutually Assured Destruction will never be a comfortable concept, but the experience of the Cold War proves that it works. It is sometimes argued that nuclear weapons will never be used. To accept this is a gamble too far, particularly in the light of emerging nuclear capable extremist states. In any case, the threat is from the coercive power of a nuclear state against a non-nuclear state. Quite simply, there would be no alternative to giving in to whatever demands were being made.

8.5 For the foreseeable future only governments will have the ability to control nuclear weapons and to launch nuclear missiles. Such governments are – it has been well demonstrated – deterred from their use by the immediate and certain prospect of their own destruction.

8.6 The important factor here is the certainty. A deterrent has to be invulnerable and able to be launched under all and any circumstances. The Vanguard class „bomber“ submarines meet these requirements but will soon need replacing. Day to day, operationally, they are independent; although long term their Trident missile system's supply and refurbishment clearly depends on the US

8.7 UKIP welcomes the Labour Government's support for Trident as better late than never. However, UKIP believes that the design and build of four new British-built, American-armed „bomber“ missile submarines should start immediately in order to preserve the skills base which might otherwise be lost through delay.

9. The UK Defence Budget and Armed Forces Cuts

9.1 The Defence Budget is of course a result of the country's defence commitments and society's willingness to pay for them. Defence spending dropped sharply at the end of the Cold War. A „Peace Dividend“ was reasonably taken and money diverted to other requirements such as Health and Social Security – but it was overdone. Severe strains in equipping and maintaining our forces in Afghanistan have become obvious to the public, and severe and justified criticism has been made by senior servicemen in the House of Lords and by the new UK National Defence Association².

9.2 The 2004 Future Capabilities White Paper committed us to supporting three simultaneous small to medium-scale operations, including one long running peace keeping operation; or a one-off large scale operation and a small scale peace keeping one. UKIP believes this is a reasonable analysis, but one that is not being met in practice. UKIP policy is that we should spend sufficient monies to carry out effectively the UK's responsibilities as set out in the 1998 Strategic Defence Review and the 2004 White Paper.

9.3 Our defence expenditure in 2009 was 2.2% of the UK's GDP. The latest figures for France was 2.6%, Germany 1.5%, Italy 1.8% and the USA 4%³. In short, Britain is spending head for head less than France and much less than the US. We cannot do defence on the cheap. The budget will have to rise substantially to meet the commitments we already have, prepare for others, and to look after those who serve.

9.4 Furthermore, the UK's defence spending gap is made much worse by huge wastage in the MOD. The UKNDA (United Kingdom National Defence Association) estimates that the MOD wastes some £3 to 4 billion through management incompetence and over-staffing⁴. For example, there are around 86,000 civilian staff compared to some 175,000 service personnel – a ratio of nearly one to two. UKNDA reports that in France, the ratio between civil servants and service personnel is one to five.

9.5 Some 50% of the existing defence budget goes on R & D and purchase of equipment; The problem – addressed further in the section on Procurement – is that we have not been getting value for money. Witness the reduction in front line forces from 1997 to 2006, despite a slowly rising defence budget⁵. The Navy went down from 49 destroyers and frigates in 1990 to 25 in 2007 and from 12 submarines to 9; the Army reduced from 55 to 36 Infantry battalions in the same period; the Air Force lost 8 out of 19 strike/attack/reconnaissance squadrons and 5 out of 9 air defence squadrons. Soldiers receiving P45s on the battlefield is not easily forgiven. As a result the strains on our overstretched armed forces have become so clear that even the Government was forced to acknowledge them.

9.6 In January 2007 the then Prime Minister talked of the need to renew the covenant between the Armed Forces, Government and People which means „increased expenditure on equipment, personnel and the condition of our armed forces, not in the short run but for the long run.“ (Tony Blair, RUSI Journal 2007)

9.7 UKIP believes that the Defence Budget must rise substantially to meet our present responsibilities, but that if we learn to spend it smarter the rise can be kept within affordable limits.

10. Defence Procurement

MOD Procurement Failures

10.1 The total MOD procurement and research budget is some £18 billion, about half of the total defence budget. This is a huge sum, in fact the largest national manufacturing programme, vitally important to UK's economic welfare. Over the last few decades its management has been decidedly poor with a respected defence expert Bernard Gray stating in his MOD report that the average MOD equipment programme overruns by five years and that the costs inflate by 40%⁶. Currently, these equipment delays cost the MOD some £2.2 billion a year or an unfunded £35 billion over budget. Bernard Gray went on to state in his 2009 report that the MOD procurement system has “endemic” failings” with years of “political fudge” and a “sclerotic” acquisition system. The Guardian reported that the MOD had wasted „huge amounts of money on unsuitable kit” and showed a picture of „ministers and officials refusing to take vital decisions”

10.2 The results are evident for all to see, in the Nimrod programme, the Chinook failures, the submarine building cost/time overruns, the lack of appropriate equipment in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the shrinking military forces we can afford on a rising budget. The recent move to Integrated Project Teams has been in the right direction but much remains to be done, particularly in keeping all sides of the team in post throughout a project.

10.3 Joint European procurement has been a failure. Political and management problems, divided administration and national workshare almost invariably make the project late and over budget. Over and above this, there is the political problem of being dependent on the EU for supply.

10.4 Buying too much from the US also has problems. There is often a case for doing this when the numbers we need are small and the R&D is very high (e.g. Naval Harpoon missile) But going too often to this well would make us a over-dependent on the US and lose our technological capability to the extent that we could no longer maintain or understand the equipment we had bought (e.g. problems with the specialised Special Forces Chinook Mk 3).

10.5 The UK's Chinook saga is a showpiece of incompetence by the MOD. As a consequence of the MOD seeking to cut costs, the helicopters were delivered nine years late at a total cost of £500 million or nearly double the original cost of £259 million⁷. This delay and cost overrun was the consequence of the MOD trying to save £40 million. This is because the MOD declined to buy Boeing's essential software that would allow the Chinook helicopter to fly in very difficult conditions⁸.

10.6 Furthermore, this short-sighted MOD approach has led to delays which will add another £1.1 billion (a net increase of £674 million) to the new aircraft carrier project. This has also meant the lives of the existing Invincible Class carriers will have to be extended at an additional cost of £123 million. Similarly, the MOD has slowed down production of all but one of the seven Astute submarine class which saved £139 million in the short term, but in the future, it will result in a net increase of £400 million⁹.

10.7 The National Audit Office sums it up that the MOD's „save now, pay later“ approach is partly responsible for the MOD procurement procedure being bankrupt. According to the UK's National Audit Office (NAO), military spending will face a deficit black hole of some £36 billion over the next ten years if there is no increase in the defence budget¹⁰.

Essential Reform of the UK's Defence Procurement System

10.8 In UKIP's view, the way forward is to encourage investment in research and development in the British arms industry so that our armed forces can be supplied with the best possible equipment, preferably by „buying British“ whenever possible; and for the most part obliging major contractors to make better use of medium and small companies, and strengthen the national manufacturing base. The UK will buy a proportion of US equipment where essential but wherever possible ensure British industry is involved in such programmes. In addition, the UK will be prepared to buy

other foreign equipment where it represents excellent value, but only where there is an overwhelming case for doing so. UKIP will trust British industry more and ensure achievable specifications in procurement briefs and permit the use of more commercial components in the construction of MOD equipment. UKIP will keep the new M.O.D. integrated project teams but keep the same people over the life of the project. UKIP will also delay production orders until the technology is stable, the design is well established and extensive real time acceptance tests have been passed. Furthermore, UKIP will move to fixed priced contracts and then limit design and specification changes to ensure that the cost doesn't spiral upwards.

10.9 UKIP believes that Defence Procurement is a very large scale business. Using the money well is the key to better armed forces. It can revitalise our national industrial base. But we have to do it smarter, and we have to increase defence spending by an order of magnitude. UKIP is prepared to increase substantially the capital and resource budgets on defence, including funding a multi-billion investment in defence equipment (see Appendix One for figures).

11. Our Duty to Those who Serve

Armed Forces Pay and Conditions

11.1 The men and women in the armed forces voluntarily surrender many of the freedoms enjoyed by civilians. They often face long periods of separation from their families. When duty calls, they must face the possibility of injury or death. Those who serve understand that it will not make them rich, but their reward is the comradeship they enjoy and the respect of their fellow countrymen on whose behalf they fight. Such respect must certainly extend to an average wage, decent accommodation both in barracks and married quarters, and the best treatment the country can afford if they are wounded. This respect is now sadly lacking and the country has let its forces down in many ways. For example, pay has fallen to levels well below that of the Fire and Police services who share equivalent risks¹¹. It is also noted that the new tri-service JPA pay system has been poorly managed whilst some reservists in Afghanistan have called home to find no money has been paid into their accounts for months. Indeed, the hastily arranged tax rebate for our troops there is evidence of the Government's embarrassment.

11.2 It is also disgraceful that some married quarters and single accommodation at military bases in the UK are in such poor condition. Furthermore, members of the armed forces in uniform or in hospital have been subject to obscene verbal and physical threats. On the other hand, press reports reveal expensive programmes of MOD office and senior residence refurbishment, with luxury items. This reveals MOD insensitivity and lack of care about those who serve in our armed forces.

Armed Forces Medical Facilities

11.3 Medical Facilities are the most shocking situation of all. The systematic closure of 16 military hospitals and associated service medical facilities, and the 55% shortfall in service medical officers, is a folly that has been highlighted by the treatment of wounded servicemen returning from Afghanistan¹².

11.4 They have been treated in mixed and open NHS wards, deprived of their uniforms, and sometimes accosted by hostile visitors or patients. Some servicemen visiting their wounded comrades have „felt more comfortable out of uniform“, which speaks volumes.

11.5 The only place for those wounded or traumatised in combat is in a military facility where they can recover and be treated by those who understand what they went through. UKIP notes that in February 2010, it was reported by the Guardian that NHS hospitals dealing with military casualties are under growing pressure and might have to displace civilians to make way for any extra military patients¹³. Whilst the MOD is to expand the number of beds from 66 to 96 in the MOD medical facility Headley Court in 2010, UKIP believes that this is too little and too late when it is considered that some 6,900 military personnel have been medically evacuated from Iraq and Afghanistan since 2003¹⁴.

11.6 At the front line, the shortage of Medevac helicopters and the poor state of aeromedical VC 10 aircraft contrasts badly with the attention that US forces pay to their wounded.

11.7 UKIP believes this state of affairs – with service men and women poorly paid, badly accommodated, ill equipped and not even properly treated when wounded – is the result of Governments trying to get defence on the cheap. Consequently, it is not surprising that in a MOD survey in May 2008 showed that nearly half of Britain’s service personnel and reservists are seriously considering resignation¹⁵. As the UKNDA states, if „only half were to resign, Britain’s defences would be paralysed.“

11.8 Ministers, MOD civil servants and sometimes senior officers are all guilty of shutting their eyes to the problems. It brings shame on us all. It is time for a new deal between the people and those who put their lives at risk in their service.

UKIP Pledges to Members of the British Armed Forces

11.9 UKIP policy is to: substantially increase compensation for serious injuries to those injured serving their country. In addition, UKIP will restore Crown immunity for all armed forces, scrap the Human Rights Act and see that individuals won’t be held responsible for collective military actions.

11.10 UKIP will offer service personnel, in both the regular and Territorial forces, and their families free private medical and dental cover and care in restored military hospitals. UKIP will remedy the shortfall in service doctors and make it a point of principle that service people are treated in service medical facilities. Furthermore, UKIP will reinstate a building/refurbishment programme for military hospitals primarily for service personnel but available to retired military personnel and also able to serve the NHS when space is available

11.11 UKIP will also make a commitment to provide decent modern housing standards for the military and their families. We will fund a substantial increase in Service pay by aligning it broadly to that of the Police and Fire Services. In addition, we will enhance retention of personnel through incentives such as „warrants“ which are regular cash incentives to make longer service more attractive.

11.12 To boost the size of the armed forces, UKIP will undertake a major recruitment drive in schools, colleges and universities. We also recognise the social benefits of military service in terms of pride, discipline and skills and taking young people off welfare.

11.13 UKIP believes that Britain does not do enough to honour our Armed Forces. UKIP will make physical or serious verbal assault of serving personnel either a treasonable offence or one of assisting the enemy. In this way, UKIP will bring military service back to the respected profession it once was.

11.14 To ensure proper recognition of their courage and sacrifice, UKIP shall also introduce a new National Defence Medal that will be awarded to every member of the British armed forces for their service to their Queen and country. This medal will recognise many „Forgotten Heroes“ who served our country in places such as Korea (post armistice), the Berlin Airlift, the Cold War (which cost hundreds of lives), and during IRA attacks in England and Germany. It will also give due recognition at last to our National Service veterans for their superb contribution.

12. The Army

Increasing Army Manpower

12.1 Of the three services, the Army has suffered most from overstretch in recent years. The Army is fighting a major war in Afghanistan, and simultaneously maintaining large numbers of troops on active service spread throughout Northern Ireland, Sierra Leone, Kosovo, Bosnia, the Falklands, Cyprus and Germany – all on an establishment of about 100,000 men and women¹⁶.

12.2 To achieve these commitments, the Army has consistently breached the Government’s „harmony“ targets and „maximum commitment“ policy, and has been forced to rely heavily on the Territorial Army. Not surprisingly the Army has a crisis in recruiting and too many are leaving, so the situation is getting steadily worse. Recent amalgamation of the remaining County regiments in order to fit them into the EU’s 'Battlegroup' structure has been bad for morale. .

12.3 UKIP believes that UK defence commitments need an Army of at least 125,000, backed by larger numbers of personnel in the Territorial Army. UKIP is utterly opposed to reported plans that will see the Army cut by at least three infantry battalions or 5,000 soldiers¹⁷. The stress on manpower has already meant that the rule of a two year gap between tours of duty is now routinely ignored. It was reported in the media that the Grenadier Guards were granted only eight months respite between tours of duty¹⁸. This is unacceptable and UKIP will act immediately to bring the size of the Army up to the required numbers.

Reinstatement of Traditional Regiments

12.4 UKIP is totally committed to the reinstatement of many traditional regiments, and reverse amalgamations since 2001 in particular. Battalions within new EU-regional „super-regiments“, such as the Black Watch (3rd Battalions) and The Argyll & Sutherland

Highlanders (5th Battalion) within the EU,^s Royal Regiment of Scotland, will be restored to full regimental status, as will the Royal Welsh Fusiliers from the EU's Royal Welsh (1st Battalion) and the English EU-regional regiments such as the Royal Anglian Regiment or the Staffords amalgamated into the Royal Mercian Regiment. Famous disbanded regiments such as the Gordon Highlanders and the Rifles will be restored. At present many units are forced to draw personnel from different regiments and corps to perform operational duties for which they were not recruited. Infantry tasks are being done by Royal Armoured Corps and Royal Artillery specialists, for example. The first priority is therefore to bring all units up to full establishment.

Commonwealth Recruitment

12.5 UKIP would seek to recruit more extensively in the Commonwealth, in parallel with UKIP's proposals to restore economic and cultural links to the Commonwealth. UKIP would consider recruiting more Gurkhas – famed for their loyalty and courage. However it is abundantly clear that in present conditions no recruiting drive could succeed without substantial reform of pay and conditions.

Territorial Army

12.6 Regarding the Territorial Army, UKIP believes the TA has an important social as well as military reserve role, and will seek to double the numbers serving in the Territorial Army.

12.7 UKIP recognises that excessive mobilisation (there are currently 1,200 Army reservists mobilised) has been a significant deterrence, and should be resisted for future operations. The increase in regular forces should be aimed to reduce this pressure on reserves. UKIP would ensure a good supply of TA specialists, and not just infantry. Incentives such as free medical and dental care will assist recruitment and the passing of medical tests.

Shortage of Army Equipment

12.8 The job in hand is counter insurgency and low intensity close range warfare – yet far too much money and time is still spent on Cold War era planning and security scenarios. The EU's Future Rapid Effect System (FRES) combat vehicles, at £16 billion are a case in point¹⁹. We need to pay much more attention to the supply and delivery of equipment for counter insurgency and low intensity close range warfare. Deficiencies in armoured vehicles, personal equipment, personal armour, and personal weapons have all been extensively criticised by those serving.

12.9 Indeed, the UKNDA reported in February 2010 that the average soldier under training is restricted to firing a mere 50 rounds of ammunition a year²⁰. The Territorial Army volunteer now only gets 50 training days a year. Moreover, tank commanders have been told not to fire their guns in order to save ammunition. This is an utterly ridiculous situation which UKIP is determined to end through proper funding for the armed forces' training programmes.

12.10 A further disgrace surrounds the supply of armoured vehicles to the Army in Afghanistan. In response to the increased use of roadside bombs in Helmand and the inadequacy of the „Snatch“ Land Rovers, the MOD ordered hundreds more armoured vehicles at a billion pounds cost²¹. However, the delivery of some of these vehicles has been delayed, others found wanting in the terrain and one – the Vector – proved to be so useless that it was withdrawn.

12.11 A parallel deficiency is the acute shortage of helicopters – Apache assault helicopters, and helicopters for troop transports, supply, medical evacuation, communications, command and control.

12.12 At the same time we cannot forget the possibility of higher intensity warfare. We must cut ourselves free from designing future equipment to operate with an EU Battlegroup or EU Rapid Reaction Force, employing EU electronics and Galileo GPS system. It is vital that we equip ourselves to be inter-operable with US forces.

12.13 Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defence (NBCD) is of renewed importance in the face of international terrorism, and must be given more priority. UKIP recognises the superb contribution the British Army makes in fighting and peacekeeping operations around the world, but recognises that overstretch is destroying the armed forces, with continuing serious losses of trained personnel. The Army must be increased to meet both current requirements and future needs.

Restoring the British Army

12.14 UKIP will boost the size of the army to at least 125,000 with an appropriate number in the Territorial Army. As stated earlier, UKIP will improve pay and accommodation and provide greater incentives for staying in the Army service. UKIP will provide better and quicker supply of armoured vehicles and personal equipment and more versatile helicopters. Finally, we will spend less time and money aligning our equipment and organization to EU force requirements.

13. The Royal Navy

13.1 The Royal Navy is now under strength, despite manning standards being reduced on board ships. There are particular shortages in medical staff, weapons systems operators, leading hands (21% short), nuclear watch keepers, and Royal Marines.

Aircraft Carriers

13.2 Aircraft Carriers are the key to the effectiveness of the Navy. Indeed, the possession of fairly large aircraft carriers capable of operating multi-role aircraft and helicopters are crucial to the capability of the UK to operate overseas at any kind of intensity. After several years' delay the Government has confirmed that two carriers will be built. The first was due to have been in service in 2012, and will now be years late. Meanwhile we have only the 2 light carriers that fought in the Falklands 25 years ago. The UK Independence Party would order a third aircraft carrier, to allow deployment of two carriers in emergencies (as happened during the Falklands), whilst the third is in refit.

Destroyers and Frigates

13.3 Royal Navy destroyers and frigates in service were down from 49 in 1990, to 33 in 2001 to just 25 in 2007, with many confined to port. New Type 45 destroyers are large ships (over 7,000 tons) designed to operate with and support the carriers. 8 were to have been built, now reduced to 6, with only two launched to date²².

13.4 It is now reported that the Type 45 destroyer, which entered into service three years late and £1.5 billion over budget, will go to sea without any air defence missiles. This is because their Sea Viper system won't be ready until 2011²³. As a consequence of the delays of the launch of the Type 45 ships, the MOD has been forced to extend the lives of the ageing Type 42 ships at a cost of £200 million.

13.5 Our frigates – the maids of all work for any Navy – have seen comparatively new three Type 23 frigates, the latter built in 1994, sold off, whilst there is no new frigate construction in sight.

Submarines

13.6 Together with Aircraft Carriers, submarines are the „Strike Force“ of a modern Navy. Britain has cut its fleet from 37 in the Cold War to just 9 nuclear propelled Fleet „attack“ submarines (SSNs) in 2007. Nearly all are over 20 years old – still effective, but needing more maintenance to keep them going. New submarine construction – the impressive Astute Class – has nevertheless been a sorry tale of cost overruns and delays²⁴. Eight were planned, and it seems that only 6 or 7 may be built. The first entered service in 2008.

Trident Strategic Missile Submarines (SSBNs)

13.7 The Government has confirmed it will replace the 4 Vanguard class „bomber“ submarines that carry the national nuclear strategic deterrent, with a new British class of SSBN. This is to be welcomed. It is crucially important that the new class, like the Vanguards, is armed with the latest US missiles (to carry the British warheads). A „co-operation“ deal with the French would lead to the usual delays and cost overruns and is likely to be taken over as an EU deterrent, with consequent loss of British independence.

Amphibious Vessels

13.8 The recently built amphibious vessels HMS Albion and Bulwark, together with the Bay class Royal Fleet Auxiliaries, are probably adequate to land a brigade group if they are all operational at one time, which may be unlikely. However one of the amphibious ships is already under threat of mothballing. UKIP would like to see 2 decommissioned Invincible class carriers used as back-up amphibious vessels (HMS Ark Royal is already designated as a LPH amphibious ship).

Mine Warfare and Coastal Vessels

13.9 Mines are a weapon often used by terrorists and small states, and the Royal Navy used to have the world's leading capability in dealing with them. These mine warfare and

coastal vessels also played a key role in fisheries protection and coastal defence (an anti-terrorist requirement just emerging over the horizon). But very few are now left, and UK mine countermeasures expertise has mostly been lost. There are 5 small patrol vessels, and 18 very small patrol boats.

The Naval Reserves and Reserve Ships

13.10 UKIP is in favour of the principle of Naval Reserves, but needs to be convinced of the best means of maintaining naval reserves in such a technological and specialist age. Further study of such reserves will be undertaken.

Naval Bases

13.11 UKIP condemns the Labour Government's plan to run down Plymouth as a major naval base over the next few years. If these plans go ahead, Plymouth may be left with just seven warships and five survey ships within only five years²⁵.

Royal Navy Expansion Plan

13.12 Twenty-five years ago Britain retook the Falklands from Argentina in the face of technologically advanced ships, missiles and aircraft. It is extremely doubtful whether today's Navy would be strong enough to do this today. Britain's international role, the UK's greater vulnerability to energy supplies from abroad, the globalised nature of the terrorist threat, and UKIP's desired shift to greater global and Commonwealth trade, all suggest a greater role for the Royal Navy, and for Britain's ability to project forward power.

13.13 UKIP would rebuild the Navy over 10 years to 3 large Aircraft Carriers with associated Air Group. In addition, there would be 4 Assault ships, with troop landing helicopters, and converted carriers; 6 RFA troop landing ships, with troop landing helicopters (not Roll on/off); 30 destroyers and frigates, all with multi-purpose helicopters, kept operational; 4 SSBNs (Trident Strategic Missile Submarines); 12 nuclear propelled attack Fleet submarines (SSNs); 25 Minesweepers/Coastal Protection craft; 3 RFA Tanker/Support ships; 20 extra naval Merlin helicopters and increase Royal Navy personnel to around 42,000. UKIP will also safeguard the Royal Navy ports at Plymouth and Portsmouth and reopen Rosyth as a Royal Navy naval base with permanently stationed ships

14. The Royal Air Force

The Eurofighter (now designated 'Typhoon')

14.1 The very large purchase of Eurofighters was conceived for the Cold War, and continued for industrial reasons. However they have been bought and are good aeroplanes, with a largely British engine and radar. It is clear that if these aircraft had been designed and ordered as an all-British project we would have had them earlier and at less cost. It is rather indicative of the incompetence of the MOD cuts when it is considered that the RAF is ordering more Eurofighters than it has trained pilots. UKIP will boost the numbers of RAF personnel by 6,000 to make sure the RAF has the personnel for the equipment.

The Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)

14.2 The Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) is a US project, and the MOD requirement is for 138 aircraft at £7.5 billion²⁶ (2003 prices). This is too few as half the aircraft are to replace the Harriers which are due to go out of service this year (2010). 150 JSFs will be needed to supply 2 carriers at sea in an emergency however, with 3 carriers ordered, as per UKIP policy. UKIP would order an additional 50 JSFs („Lightnings“) for RAF use, but which would be available for naval use from carriers and support ships if required, as with Harriers. However, UKIP is concerned at reports that the severity of the planned spending cuts will mean that the first of the carriers will go to sea without any fighter planes at all as the Harriers go out of service and the MOD, at the Treasury's behest, balks at buying JSF replacements.

14.3 If the JSF order does go through, the RAF will still lack any fifth generation stealth capability to suppress and destroy the enemy's air defences until 2018 at the earliest.

14.4 UKIP is also concerned at press reports that the Labour Government intends to close RAF Cottesmore and reduce the number of Tornado/Harrier squadrons by a further one or two.

Transport and Tanker Fleet

14.5 The RAF currently has a tanker fleet of 21 aircraft (VC-10 and Lockheed Tristar), to be replaced in 2013 by just 14 Airbus A330s operating under a PFI agreement. The existing 21 seem inadequate for our Afghanistan operations, and a reduction to 14 will be grossly inadequate. UKIP suggests a like for like replacement of 21 A330s. UKIP considers that PFI agreements and part ownership with commercial airlines are not suitable for military purposes and will buy direct.

14.6 The current transport fleet is 57 aircraft, 50 of which are the Hercules. The plan is to replace these with the Airbus A400M. This aircraft has not yet flown and its carrying capacity is doubted. UKIP proposes that the UK buys 10 of the very satisfactory Boeing C-17, replacing the 4 leased (up to 6 in 2008), before its production line is lost.

Helicopter Fleet

14.7 Operations in Afghanistan have revealed a desperate shortage of all types of helicopters in all 3 services. Consequently, UKIP welcomes the recent announcement by the Defence Secretary Bob Ainsworth to confirm the order of 22 additional Chinook helicopters²⁷, leading to an estimated 70 airframes. However, UKIP is also deeply concerned at the Labour Government's decision to defer indefinitely the order for three Nimrod MR A4 surveillance aircraft which are essential for monitoring Taliban activity in Afghanistan²⁸. In addition, we share the concern that there are far too few Reaper UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) to be effective. It is symptomatic of the current Government's neglect of defence that the National Audit Office (NAO) highlighted the shortage of helicopter spares.

14.8 The NAO stated that this meant aircraft stationed in the UK had to be cannibalised for parts in order to keep those on operations flying. The Government has also failed to replace the ageing Lynx helicopters which the NAO said had struggled in the intense heat of Afghanistan²⁹. Rather than bring in better equipment, the Labour Government was forced to spend £70 million in order to upgrade the Lynx's engines.

14.9 UKIP sees a minimum requirement of 60 Chinook heavy lift helicopters; more Merlins to replace the RAF Puma and the RN Sea King HC4, and UKIP will provide a wide range of commercial helicopters for multiple duties across all three services.

Battle of Britain Memorial Flight

14.10 Despite wasting billions in false economies, UKIP is dismayed to learn that the MOD is planning to axe the BBMF which costs only £3 million pounds a year³⁰. This represents 0.1 % of the MOD's annual budget of some £36.9 billion or only one percent of the £300 million paid in bonuses to MOD civil servants³¹. The BBM Flight comprises eleven working aircraft, with one of only two flying Lancasters in the world. It is a disgrace to this Government that it should even consider axing this tribute to the brave RAF service personnel who saved their country at its moment of greatest crisis.

Maritime Patrol Aircraft Fleet

14.11 The requirement for surveillance aircraft, over land and sea, will extend far into the future. The electronic fits of these aircraft are necessarily sophisticated and expensive, particularly given the tragic and scandalous loss of life from current Nimrod fuel leaks. The difficulties faced by this presently ageing Nimrod fleet, and the delays in the NMRA 4 replacement programme, are of great concern. The RAF has been decimated most by defence cuts, with a 49% fall in personnel since 1990, but the role for ground support, heavy lift and surveillance is a growing and under resourced need owing to UK commitments abroad at present. The RAF needs to be built up again.

RAF Expansion Plan

14.12 UKIP will bring the RAF up to strength in personnel, with an extra 6,000 personnel; back the Joint Strike Fighter programme and buy 50 extra planes, enlarge the tanker fleet; modernise the transport fleet and buy more C-17s outright; buy more helicopters as a matter of priority and put the maritime patrol aircraft programme back on track as soon as possible.

15. Conclusion

15.1 The global security environment remains challenging. In particular, the post 9-11 world has thrown up new challenges, and the experience of Iraq and Afghanistan have demonstrated the need for a world class, well-funded armed forces. For far too long, successive British governments have cannibalised the UK armed forces with savage spending cuts. The result has been that our armed forces must operate without the proper levels of support they need and so richly deserve. UKIP aims to provide our service men and women with the highest degree of care, commitment and equipment. This will enable them to contribute towards a more secure world.

Appendix One: UKIP Additional Defence spending - indicative
Figures Overall Defence Budget figures

UKIP is committed to an increase of 40% in defence spending, around 1% of UK GDP. For illustration, a 40% increase on 2009/10 figures of £36.89 billion (source: MOD), would equate to an additional defence spend of £14.76 billion p.a., and an increase in the defence budget to £51.66 billion p.a. for the year. The increase in the total capital spend is indicated below as an additional £27.4 billion over the proposed 10 year programme (plus the army capital spend which is less programme specific and is included in the overall spending increase). This equates to an average £2.7 billion p.a. over the 10 years. The increase in the total revenue spend (which includes a proportionate increase in army capital spend and extra personnel, pay, incentives and facilities) is £10.43 billion p.a.

ROYAL NAVY

	Current Strength	UKIP proposal	UKIP Change	Cost (£bn)
Nuclear Submarines	4	4	0	17.0*
Aircraft Carriers	2	3	+ 1	1.9
Assault Ships	3	5	+ 2	0.5**
Fleet Submarines	9	12	+ 3	1.5
Minesweepers/ C o a s t a l Protection	16	25	+ 9	0.6
Frigates/ Destroyers	17	30	+ 13	7.3***
RFA Troop Landing ships (Bay class)	4	6	+ 2	0.25****
RFA T a n k e r s / Supports	17	20	+ 3	0.45*****
Merlin Naval Helicopters	30	50	+ 20	0.4*****
Total	102	155	+ 53	+ 12.9*
Naval Personnel (Trained requirement)	36,470	42,000	+ 6,890	N/A

Notes

* UK government already spending this, therefore not included in total increased costs by UKIP

** UK proposes using 2 of the Invincible class aircraft carriers as back-up assault ships, with a minimal cost for refits. The necessary Aircraft are covered elsewhere

*** Figure assumes order as if for Type 45 destroyers at £560 million each, but refitting of Type 23, 22 or Type 42 destroyers such as the HMS York upgrade would be a lower cost alternative, or an updated new batch of Type 23 frigates

**** MOD July 2006 suggested unit cost of £93.5m for BAE, assume 125m for 2

***** Navy News: RFA Wave Ruler launched 2003 cost £110m. Allowing for £150m

*****22 May 2007 Written Answer to Ann Winterton MP for RAF Mk3 = £19 million each.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

	Current Strength	UKIP proposal	UKIP Change	Cost (£bn)
Chinook	27HC2 + 8HC3 Unused = 35	70	+ 35	2.5*
Boeing C-17	4 + 2 extra = 6 leased	10 (purchase)	+ 10	1.9**
Merlin Air Force Helicopters	15	35	+20	0.8
Joint Strike Fighters	0	200	+50	2.5***
Commercial Helicopters	0	15	+15	0.3****
A330 Airbus MR TT tankers	14 ordered	21	+7	6.5*****
Total	46	295	+249	14.5
RAF Personnel (trained requirement)	42,160	50,000	+6,060	N/A

Notes

* Chinook cost is calculated at approximately £70 million each. 14 Chinooks were purchased by the RAF in 1995 for £240 million, a cost of £60 million each. 22 new Chinooks (plus 2 replacements) were ordered by the Government in November 2009, but are to be paid out of existing not additional military resources.

** US cost of C-17 to USAF estimated at \$330.8m including training and spares (@\$1.80 = £1 pound) = £183.8 million each. Leasing cost savings would also be made.

*** The MOD has 150 JSV orders projected at a cost of £7.5 billion (£50 million each) UKIP would increase the order by 50 RAF aircraft, which could be used off carriers if required

**** Assuming commercial helicopters at price of Merlin (Parliamentary answer as above) of £19 million each - reports in October 2006 suggested Danish Merlin helicopters may be available or leasing of Russian made Mi17 Hip and/or three giant Mi26 Halo transporters

***** The MOD ordered 14 Airbus A330 MRTT tankers to replace 21 L-1001 and VC-10 Tankers in June 2007. UKIP believes this is insufficient and is against the PFI deal mechanism. UKIP is recommending a straight swap of 21 planes for 21 existing planes, at £309.5 million each.

ARMY

	Current Strength	UKIP proposal	Change	Cost (£bn)
Regiments	120*	165	+ 45	N/A***
Totals	120	165	+45	N/A
Regular Army personnel (Trained Requirement)	101,800	125,000	+ 23,200	N/A
Territorial Army Personnel	36,790**	75,000	+ 38,210	N/A

Notes

* 120 regiments include combat arms, such as infantry and armour, combat support such as artillery and engineers, and combat services support such as medical and logistics. UKIP would aim to reverse cuts made post-1997 in Armoured regiments - 9 cut, 9 restored, Infantry - 19 battalions cut, restore 20, Artillery - 8 cut, restore 8, Medical regiments/field hospitals - 8 cut, 8 restored. At around 600 men per batallion/regiment this equates to 27,000 extra troops, 2,000 to make up the deficit in troop levels.

** Territorial Army at 1 April 2007, excluding university and cadet forces.

*** Costings per soldier not available. UKIP's costings assume broadly similar costs to existing regular or reserve costings, and UKIP assumes an across-board increase in personnel and equipment, rather than specific capital programmes. This is allowed for in overall spending figures. It is also assumed equipment is passed from regular to reserve forces as new equipment is introduced.

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Annexes to the UKIP Defence Policy Paper (unpublished)

- A. Britain's Defences and the European Union: Gerard Batten MEP
- B. Defence Procurement: David MacDonald
- C. Service Family Accommodation: David Rutland
- D. Defence Medical Policy & Practice: Simon Dandy



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