



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
January 30, 2017

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REAGAN NATIONAL DEFENSE FORUM**  
**TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 1-2, 2017**  
*Forum to Include Defense Officials, Congressional Leaders,  
Newsmakers, and Industry*

**(Simi Valley, CA)** - The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library today announced that the fifth annual Reagan National Defense Forum (RNDF), North America's premier gathering for defense and national security experts, will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

"Peace through Strength was one of Ronald Reagan's core principles. By it, he meant that our armed forces must always be capable of meeting and defeating any challenge," said Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute. "Since 2013, the Reagan National Defense Forum has become North America's premier gathering for defense and national security experts. Now, in our fifth year, we look forward to continuing to examine and debate the preservations and improvement of the common defense and how Ronald Reagan's enduring principles of Peace through Strength apply to the present moment."

Each year RNDF brings together hundreds of leaders and key stakeholders in the defense community - including members of Congress, civilian officials and military leaders from the Defense Department and industry - to address the state of our national defense and threats to our national security. Previous participants in the Reagan National Defense Forum have included Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joseph Dunford, former Vice President Richard Cheney, Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson, former Secretaries of Defense Chuck Hagel, Leon Panetta and Robert Gates, Secretary of the Army, Eric Fanning, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General David Goldfein, Secretary of the Air Force, Deborah Lee James, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, General Mark Milley, Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, General Robert Neller, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson as well as chief executives from Northrop Grumman, BAE Systems, Boeing, L-3, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon.

The Honorary Steering Committee, chaired by Congressman Mac Thornberry, includes the Honorable Robert Gates, the Honorable Chuck Hagel, the Honorable Duncan L. Hunter (Retired), Senator James M. Inhofe, the Honorable Ann McLaughlin Korologos, Senator John McCain, the Honorable Howard P. "Buck" McKeon (Retired), the Honorable Sam Nunn (Retired), the Honorable Leon Panetta, Senator Jack Reed, the Honorable George Shultz, Congressman Adam Smith, the Honorable John Warner (Retired) and the Honorable Pete Wilson.

*The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the legacy of Ronald Reagan and his timeless principles of individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy, and national pride. It sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion, and the new Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C. The Reagan Library, located in Simi Valley, California houses 63 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It now also serves as the final resting place of President and Mrs. Reagan.*  
*[www.reaganfoundation.org](http://www.reaganfoundation.org)*

**Media Contact: Melissa Giller – [mgiller@reaganfoundation.org](mailto:mgiller@reaganfoundation.org) or 805-522-2977**  
[www.reaganfoundation.org/defense](http://www.reaganfoundation.org/defense)

**Event Contact: Shahla Seaborn – [sseaborn@reaganfoundation.org](mailto:sseaborn@reaganfoundation.org) or 202.997.9402**

###