

Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



Does the U.S. need a Space Force?



Bruce Plante, Tulsa World / Courtesy of AAEC

Talking Points

1. What do these cartoons say about plans to create a new military branch – Space Force – by 2020?
2. For now, defense officials can only say it will cost “billions” to set up Space Force. How fast is the U.S. budget deficit growing? What are our biggest expenses?
3. What would a Space Force do and who has been performing those duties? Has anything changed to require a new military branch?
4. Why do we need a separate Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard? Do these forces’ activities ever overlap? Do they fight each other for tax money?

Between the lines

"The only person that I've heard say this is a fantastic idea is the commander in chief, the president of the United States. Everybody else says it's redundant, it's wasteful." - Mark Kelly, former astronaut.

<http://thehill.com/policy/defense/401138-ex-astronaut-on-space-force-trump-is-the-only-person-who-thinks-this-is-a-good>

Additional resources

■ More by Bruce Plante

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/PlantB>

■ More by Ed Gamble

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/browse.cfm/Gamble>

■ Association of American Editorial Cartoonists

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>



Ed Gamble / Courtesy of AAEC